# **speakout** Upper Intermediate UNIT I

### **Overview**

Watch the video podcast. Do young people move away from their families and share flats together in your country? Whose opinions about flatmates do you agree with most?

1 Read the sentences below about Pasha's life in London. Then watch the video podcast from 0:12-0:24 and delete the incorrect word.

Hi my name is Pasha, I work for the BBC as a producer, and I do a lot of D]-ing in my spare time. I <sup>1</sup> lived / have lived in London for many years now with my friends and sometimes 1<sup>2</sup> annoy / know them with my music. <sup>3</sup> What / How about you? Do you have any <sup>4</sup>annoying / noisy habits?



**Glossary:** annoying = making you feel slightly angry

2 Do you have any annoying habits? Look at the people below and read the habits 1-7. Then watch the video podcast from 0:27-1:16 and match the people to the habits.



Deborah



Chris









Relwyn

E

- 1 snoring when asleep
- 2 biting her nails and talking a bit too loudly
- 3 taking a long time to get to the point
- 4 very messy
- 5 talking too much
- 6 bad at making decisions
- 7 leaving clothes around the bedroom and not putting them away

**Glossary:** messy = untidy and possibly dirty; snore = to breathe in a noisy way through your mouth and nose while you are asleep





Chaenara



**3** Do you have any experience of flat sharing? Watch the video podcast from 1:17- 2:18 and match the speakers A-E to the questions 1-3.











Tamara

1

1 Who had messy and untidy flatmates?

- 2 Whose flatmate(s) was/were noisy?
- 3 Who had no real problems with their flatmates?



**4** What habits or qualities in a flatmate would you find most annoying? Read the habits and qualities in the box below, then watch the video podcast from 2:22-3:33 and tick ( $\checkmark$ ) the habits the speakers mention. There are four extra habits that are NOT mentioned.

**Glossary:** filth = dirt, especially a lot of it

smoking playing computer games being insensitive making a lot of noise being messy being untidy being dirty staying in bed not clearing up after cooking a meal playing the bongo drums leaving the washing up talking too much

### The way we speak

**5** The people below talk about flat sharing and annoying habits. Read the sentences and write a word or phrase from the podcast with the same meaning as the words in brackets. Watch the video podcast from 1:19-1:55 again and check your answers.



1 I guess a lot of students are just \_\_\_\_\_\_ about that (do not care).

Tamara



2 We've always \_\_\_\_\_ (had a very good relationship) and had a really nice experience.





Chris

- 3 So, in return, I would play music late at night when they were trying to sleep just to \_\_\_\_\_\_ (do to them what they did to me).

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4 Smoking would be definitely up there! I \_\_\_\_\_\_ (really dislike) smokers.

Luke

1



5 Everything else is really not \_\_\_\_\_\_ (important) but when you're flat sharing definitely tidiness is very important.

Tamara



6 Not tidying up after themselves, leaving a mess after cooking – that sort of \_\_\_\_\_ (thing).

Relwyn

#### **Personalisation**

**6** What habits or qualities in a flatmate would you find most annoying and why? Write a short paragraph below.



Flat-sharing can provide an economical approach to accommodation, but what happens when it goes wrong? <u>http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/magazine/7117581.stm</u>



Unit 1 Beginnings

Ex 1: correct words: 1 have lived 2 annoy 3 What 4 annoying Ex 2: 1E 2A 3F 4D 5G 6B 7C

Ex 3: 1A, C 2D, E 3B

Ex 4: smoking, being insensitive, making a lot of noise, being messy, being untidy, being dirty, not clearing up after cooking a meal, leaving the washing up

Ex 5: 1 not fussed 2 got on really well 3 get my own back 4 can't stand 5 a big deal 6 stuff