

The New Flatmate

1 Warm Up Work with a partner.

Are you a tidy person?

2 Match the two halves of the expressions.

move	chores
get	opposite
clean	along
put things	in
the complete	up in the kitchen
do household	away



3 Conversation Practice with a partner.

- Claire** So, I hear you have a new flatmate.
- Andrew** Yeah – his name is Steve. He moved in last week.
- Claire** What's he like? Do you get along?
- Andrew** He's a really nice guy! He's very considerate and best of all, he's really tidy!
- Claire** Sounds perfect!
- Andrew** Yeah. He always cleans up in the kitchen. It's immaculate! He always does the dishes and puts things away.
- Claire** So, he's the complete opposite of you!
- Andrew** I know! I always leave clothes lying around the house.
- Claire** Well, perhaps he can teach you to do the household chores!

4 Comprehension Questions Ask and answer the questions with a partner.

1. When did Steve move in?
2. Does Andrew like Steve?
3. Why is the kitchen immaculate?
4. Is Andrew a tidy person? How do you know?

5 Speaking Practice **Work with a partner.**

Who is the most domesticated: you or your partner? Find out with our quiz!

Household Chores

How often do you...	You	Your Partner
vacuum the house/apartment		
put away the shopping		
tidy up the living room		
dust		
wash the dishes		
sweep or mop the kitchen floor		
clean the bathroom		
take the rubbish out		

6 Role-Play **Work with a partner.**

Read your role-play card. Make notes in the space below before you begin.

Student A

You are a college student. You share a house with several other people. Student B moved in two weeks ago.

You like a quiet, tidy house. You want your flatmate to clean the house more and be less noisy.

Student B

You are a college student. Two weeks ago, you started sharing a house with student A.

You are not always very tidy. However, you think Student A is the same.

Your Notes

Useful expressions

That's not true!
You can hardly talk!
What about you?

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Teaching Notes

Target Structure:	Conversation / Vocabulary Building
Vocabulary:	General
Level:	Lower-Intermediate
Time:	40 minutes
Preparation:	None

Suggested Teaching Method

- 1 The first exercise introduces the topic. Students can work in pairs.
- 2 Students can work alone and then check in pairs. Go through the answers with the group.
- 3 Have students practise the conversation twice, switching roles.
- 4 Students can ask and answer the questions in pairs. Go through the answers with the group.
- 5 Elicit the meaning of 'household chores'. Students should read the list of chores. Teach vocabulary, where necessary. You could also elicit possible answers - once / twice a week, hardly ever, etc.

Model the exercise with a confident student. Assign new pairs. Students can work with a partner. When finished, you could have students decide who does the most household chores.
- 6 Assign 'A' and 'B' within pairs. Have students read the role-play card.

Students could prepare by having them make notes in the box about the problems with their housemate.

Demonstrate the start of a role-play with a confident student.

While students are role-playing, monitor and make notes. Try not to interrupt.

When the role-plays have finished, go through some errors you heard while monitoring.

Answer key (Other answers may be possible.)

- 2

move	in
get	along
clean	up in the kitchen
put things	away
the complete	opposite
do household	chores
- 4
 1. He moved in last week.
 2. Yes, he does.
 3. Steve always cleans up. / He always does the dishes and puts things away.
 4. No. He always leaves clothes lying around the house.