

## A2.9 Family - Handout

- 1** This first activity is designed to practice the 'possessive "s" '(e.g. "Andy's wife") as well as basic vocabulary of the family and family relationships. Make sure that your partner understands the concept of a 'family tree' then ask and answer questions, taking it in turns, with the learner asking the questions first.
- 2** As usual these short texts can be exploited for pronunciation purposes. They should also serve as a model when you and your partner come to describe your 'significant others' to each other in the following activities. There are many adjectives to describe personality traits here: *mentally and physically active, nervous, romantic, considerate, tolerant and cute (!)*.
- 3** If it is possible to locate photos to show to your partner through Skype then obviously this is ideal. But as the rubric says, it is not essential to the success of the activity. Do ask lots of 'follow-up' questions and encourage your partner to do the same to keep the conversation going for as long as possible.
- 4** This is another ranking activity. You should put the qualities into an order from one to fourteen as your partner does the same. Be prepared to offer some explanation/your interpretation of what these words mean if required to do so, though as a last resort the learner can use a monolingual or, bilingual dictionary. Then compare lists and justify your ranking whilst allowing time for your partner to do the same.
- 5** These discussion questions should lead to some interesting discussion. You may like to mention 'the nuclear family' as opposed to 'the extended family'. This is in relation to the changing nature of the family. You may also wish to talk about same sex marriage and other contemporary issues.
- 6** Check if your partner is going to write about the people described orally in the earlier activity. Reiterating key points should help with the written task.