
BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

6 Minute English worksheet

What's it like to be a twin?



Listen to the full episode here: <https://bbc.in/4mHrgkr>

1. Look at the cover image and title of the episode. What do you think this episode is about? What do you know about this topic already? What vocabulary do you associate with this topic?

2. Now listen to the first two minutes of the episode.

- What do the presenters say the episode is about?
- What is this week's question? What do you think the answer is?

3. Now listen to the whole episode. As you listen, write down the six items of vocabulary. What do they mean?

a) Word/phrase: _____

It means: _____.

b) Word/phrase: _____

It means: _____.

c) Word/phrase: _____

It means: _____.

d) Word/phrase: _____

It means: _____.

e) Word/phrase: _____

It means: _____.

f) Word/phrase: _____

It means: _____.

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4. What did you learn that was surprising or new in this episode?

5. Answer the quiz questions. Listen again or use the transcript to help you.

1. How much of their genes do non-identical (fraternal) twins share?
 - a) 25%
 - b) 50%
 - c) 100%
2. How might you be feeling if you 'roll your eyes'?
 - a) curious
 - b) suspicious
 - c) bored
3. What is a 'significant stage or event in the development of something'?
 - a) millstone
 - b) milestone
 - c) sandstone
4. Approximately how many children are born twins?
 - a) 1 in 32
 - b) 1 in 42
 - c) 1 in 52
5. "Travelling to Tibet was difficult. We took a flight to India, then travelled overland for 10 days on trains, buses and jeeps. It _____. "
 - a) was sailing
 - b) was plain sailing
 - c) was not plain sailing
6. Which adjective means 'strange in a frightening and mysterious way'?
 - a) eerie
 - b) scary
 - c) crazy

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6. Write your own sentences using the vocabulary.

7. Answer the following questions.

- What are three things you have learnt from this episode?
- How does this topic make you feel?
- Give three examples relevant to your life using the vocabulary.

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Answers

3.

- a. roll your eyes – (idiom) move your eyes upwards as a way of showing you are annoyed or bored by what someone has said
- b. milestone – significant stage or event in the development of something
- c. (not be) plain sailing – (idiom) (not be) easy and without problems
- d. separated at birth – used to describe two people who are unusually similar or connected; or siblings who were separated and adopted by different parents at birth
- e. eerie – strange in a frightening and mysterious way
- f. crazy – strange and fantastic

5. 1b, 2c, 3b, 4b, 5c, 6a

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Teacher's notes

This worksheet is standardised so that you can amend and use it as appropriate with your classes.

Some topics may be difficult for learners, especially those which could be upsetting or cause offence. Please be mindful of this when using this worksheet, and adapt it as necessary.

Extension activities

- Role-play an interview with an 'interviewer' and an 'expert' on this topic.
- Write a short story or article using the vocabulary from this episode.
- Read original articles on this topic.
- For homework: If it is available in your country, download and listen to the original podcast these extracts were taken from.