

READING MATERIAL

UNIT 21/ FAMILIES CAN BE DIFFERENT

(Page nos. 140, 141, 142, 143, 144)

All of us prefer to live with people than to live alone. We always live in groups. Let's see one such group – Gurleen, Nagarajan and their children Tanya and Samar.



How are these people related to each other?

The people in the picture you saw belong to one family. We often see pictures or photographs of such families. Where do we see such a family? Are all families similar to this one? Let us read about a few families.

Sitamma

Sitamma lives in her ancestral house in a small city Guntoor. Her *dada*, *dadi*, younger *chacha* and *bua* live on the ground floor. In one portion of the first floor, Sitamma lives with her father, mother and younger sister Gitamma. In the other portion live her *tauji* and his three children. Her *taiji* died just a few months

ago. Her elder *chacha* and the new *chachi* live in one of the rooms on the terrace. They are newly married.

Before dinner, Sitamma's mother teaches all the children.

Food for the whole family is cooked in the same kitchen on the ground floor. They all make special effort to be together at dinner time. Nowadays, *tauji's* younger daughter sleeps with Sitamma's mother at night. In the morning Sitamma helps her get ready for school.



- * Who all are there in Sitamma's family?
- * How is the relationship between the different people in the family?
- * In the last one year what are the changes that happened in the family?

Tara

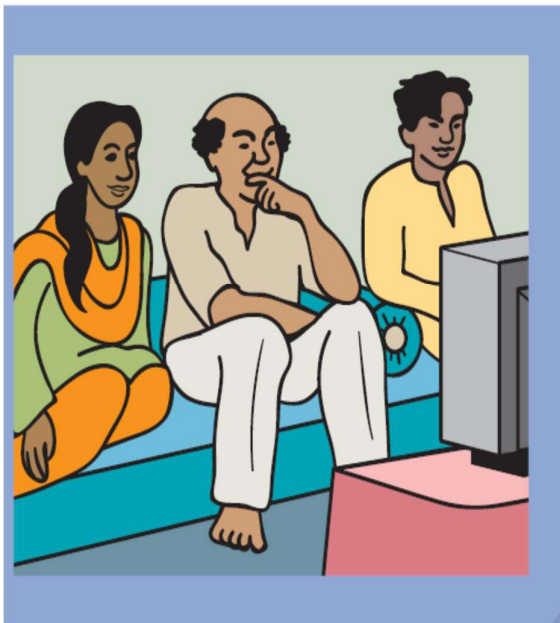
Tara lives with her *amma* and *nana* in Chennai. Her *amma* Meenakshi is not married. She has adopted Tara. Meenakshi goes to the office in the morning and returns in the evening. When Tara returns from school, her *nana* takes care of her. He is the one who feeds her, helps her to do homework and also plays with her. During vacations, the three of them go to far off places and enjoy themselves. At times, Tara's *mausi*,



mausa and their children also come to their house. At such times they play together for long hours and also chit chat.



- * Who takes care of Tara? How?
- * What are the things the family members do together?



Sara and Habib

Sara and Habib live in a city. Both are employed. Habib is a clerk in a government office and Sara teaches in a school. Habib's *abbu* is retired and lives with them. In the evening, the three of them sit together and watch television or play cards. *Abbu* enjoys watching television with the others. He enjoys the discussion as well. On

holidays, the neighbour's children come to their house and create a lot of fun. Everybody enjoys together. They play games, go out and at times go for plays and movies.

- * Who all are there in this family?
- * *Abbu* enjoys watching television with the others. Why?
- * How do the family members enjoy?



Totaram

Totaram lives with his father, uncle and cousin brothers in a colony in Mumbai. Totaram and his brothers have come to Mumbai to study. His father and uncle work here.

Everybody does the household work together. Food cooked by Totaram's *chacha* is liked by everyone. Totaram's father does

the shopping. A part of the money earned is sent to Totaram's *dada* in the village. Totaram's mother, *dada*, *dadi*, *chachi* and younger brothers and sisters live in their parental house in the village. Once a year, Totaram goes to his village.

He misses his mother very much. He writes long letters to her.



* How do Totaram's family members keep contact with each other?

* Which members of Totaram's family live in the city and which live in the village? Why?

Krishna and Kaveri

Krishna and Kaveri live with their father. In the morning, all the three leave home together. Krishna leaves Kaveri at school and goes to college. Their father goes to the shop for the day.

Kaveri returns from school in the afternoon. She unlocks the house and waits for Krishna. On returning from college, Krishna and Kaveri, eat food together.

Kaveri goes out to play after doing her school work. On returning she either plays carrom



with her brother or watches television. When father returns home, they cook food and then eat together.

During vacations, Kaveri goes to stay with her mother. Krishna also stays there for a few days, but he likes to stay in his own house – all his things and his father are here.