8.1.

4

4 Four opinions

a) Read the texts.

Miriam, Brighton

I'm 20 and I'm in my second year at college in Brighton. I live at home in London during the holidays, but my parents want me to pay £15 a week rent for my room, so I have to take a job to earn the money. I think that's unfair, but they say I should learn to pay for things.

Thomas, Newcastle

OK, I know it's not cool to live at home once you're over 20, but why? I'm 23 years old and I have a job. I have a girlfriend, but we're not ready to live together in our own flat. And I enjoy living in my parents' house. So what's the problem?

Lizzy, Sheffield

I'm 22 and still living at home. It's cheaper than renting a room or flat, but I would like more independence. I get annoyed when at the age of 22 my parents still phone me in the evening and want to know when I'll be home. I'm not a kid any more!

Carl, Wolverhampton

When I got married, I lived with my wife for three years in our own flat. But we got divorced this year, and now I'm living with my parents again. A flat just for me would be too expensive – and anyway, I like my mum's Sunday dinner and she washes my clothes too!

b) Answer the questions.

Who ...

1 thinks it's great to live with his/her parents?
2 pays mum and dad for living at home?
3 says that a flat for one person costs too much?
4 once spent a few years away from home?
5 doesn't really feel free?
6 spends part of the year away from home?

c) Finish the sentences.

1 Lizzy is still living at home because ...
2 Thomas is happy at home with his parents because ...
3 Miriam has to work during her college holidays because ...
4 Carl has an easy life at his parents' because his mother ...

5 AND YOU?

Answer the questions in full sentences. Write at least two sentences for each question.

1 Do you want to live at home when you start earning money? Why / Why not?
2 What will you miss most when you move away from home?
3 Some parents want their children to pay them rent if they live at home when they're over 18. Do you think this is fair? Why / Why not?