

Need some company? (worksheet)

Activity 1

Vocabulary. Which phrases do you associate with being alone or with others? or both?

1. to exchange banter
2. to be down in the mouth
3. to come out of shell
4. a loner
5. to cope with solitude
6. to chill out
7. to plough a lonely furrow
8. to be bummed out
9. to get on like a house on fire
10. to go it alone
11. to make someone's day
12. to chip in



Activity 2

Discuss the questions:

1. How do you feel when you are alone? Is solitude contagious?
2. Have you ever shared a room? If you have, what were the pleasures and the problems? If you haven't would you like to? Why (not)?
3. If you had to share a house or a flat with other people, what qualities would they need to make a successful arrangement?
4. In England today some people prefer to bring up children alone rather than in an unhappy relationship. What do you feel about this?
5. What are the positive and negative aspects of being an only child?
6. Do virtual connections stop people from feeling lonely and down in the dumps?
7. What do you think about the saying "Laugh and the world laughs with you; weep and you weep alone"?

Activity 3

Look at the pictures and discuss the benefits and drawbacks of doing these activities alone

1.



2.



3.





4.



5.

Activity 4

Debates

Some people enjoy being loners, some suffer from solitude incredibly.

Group 1

Get ready for the debates. Make a list of arguments why some people enjoying being alone. Try to guess what your opponent will say and think how you can respond to it.

Useful vocabulary:

to plough a lonely furrow
to go it alone
to return to seclusion of your own home
to discover a taste for silence and solitude
to seek / enjoy / prefer solitude
be in a minority of one
distractions
to embrace the possibility

Group 2

Get ready for the debates. Make a list of arguments why some people suffer from being alone. Try to guess what your opponent will say and think how you can respond to it.

Useful vocabulary:

to come out of your shell
gregarious
to bounce ideas off somebody
to chill out
to shut yourself away
to see eye to eye
to exchange banter