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Episode #053

Kinship - Family connections
in English - Family Tree (part II)

Hello, everybody! I am Georgiana, founder of SpeakEnglishPodcast.com. I want to help you speak English fluently, speaking English is easier than it looks! You just have to use the right material and techniques.

Today let's finish the **kinship** thing. In the previous episode, I introduced the topic of kinship. Now I'm going to further expand the **relationship between the different members of a family**.

Next, through a point of view story, you'll practice today's vocabulary, and you'll definitely improve your English grammar in a fun way.

Well, let's get started now. We're back to kinship again. Remember that kinship means the relationship between two people from the same family.

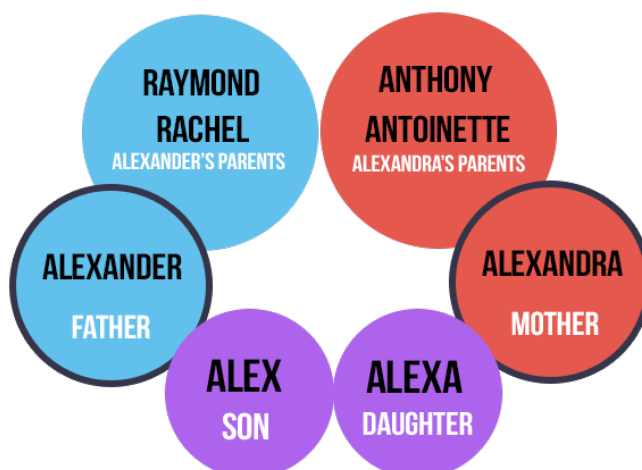
In this episode, we're going to expand these concepts a little more for the kinship that is not in the closest family circle.

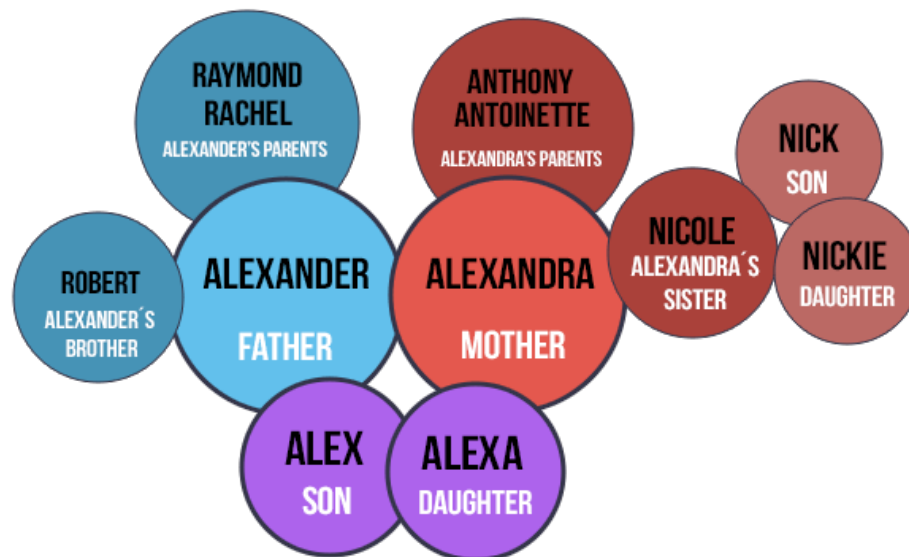
In the previous episode you learned the following vocabulary:

Husband, wife, father, mother, son, daughter, brother, sister, siblings, grandfather, grandmother, grandparents, grandson, granddaughter.

If you haven't listened to the previous episode, I would highly recommend it. That way you'll be able to better understand today's lesson.

Well, remember the family from the last episode? The grandparents: Raymond, Rachel and Anthony and Antoinette; the parents Alexander and Alexandra; and finally the children: Alex and Alexa. Check out the transcript because I've added a graphic that will help you visualize better the connection between the family members.





All right! Alexander and Alexandra are married. Alexandra's parents, Anthony and Antoinette, are Alexander's **in-laws**. When we look at it the other way around, Alexander is Alexandra's parents' **son-in-law**. Alexander is the **son-in-law** of Anthony and Antoinette.

Okay, so what's the relationship between Alexandra and Alexander's parents, Raymond and Rachel? Raymond and Rachel are Alexandra's **in-laws**. Raymond's the **father-in-law** and Rachel's Alexandra's mother-in-law. And Alexandra's the **daughter-in-law**.

Raymond and Rachel always say they have a wonderful daughter-in-law. Besides, Alexandra is happy with her in-laws. They're a good family.

All right, let's move on. Now imagine that Alexander has a brother named Robert. Well, then, what's Robert's relationship with Alexandra, Alexander's wife? Robert is Alexandra's **brother-in-law**. Alexandra is Robert's sister-in-law.

Also, by logic, Robert's wife is Alexandra's **sister-in-law** and vice versa.

Okay, so, Alexandra has a sister named Nicole. So what's the connection between Nicole and Alexander? Nicole is Alexander's **sister-in-law**, of course. And Alexander, of course, is her **brother-in-law**.

In other words, your husband's or your wife's siblings are your brothers-in-law or **sisters-in-law**. And you're their **brother-in-law** or **sister-in-law** too.

Okay, let's move on. Remember that Alexander and Alexandra have two children: Alex and Alexa...very well. Now let's take a look at the

relationship between the children and Robert, Alexander's brother. Robert is Alex and Alexa's **uncle**. On the other hand, Alex and Alexa are Robert's **nephews**. Alex is his **nephew** and Alexa his **niece**.

and Robert always says:

I love my nephews! They are always happy to see me!

And of course, Alex and Alexa say:

We like our Uncle Robert very much because he always brings us presents!

Let's examine the relationship between the two **siblings**, Alex and Alexa and Alexandra's sister, Nicole. Nicole is Alex and Alexa's, **aunt**. Also, Alex and Alexa are Nicole's **nephews**.

I haven't mentioned it yet, but if Robert is married, and his wife is also Alex and Alexa's **aunt**, and they are her **nephews**. Same with Nicole's husband. Nicole's husband is Alex and Alexa's **uncle** too.

Maybe this lesson is a bit complicated, so remember that I made a basic graph where you can see the names of each member of the family. But if you want, I encourage you to draw a diagram with arrows adding the names and the relationships of all the family members. And of course, you can listen to this episode as many times as you need.

Okay, finally, we're gonna see one last relationship. Imagine that Alexandra's sister Nicole has two children. Remember, Nicole is Alex and Alexa's **aunt**, and they're her **nephews**. Let's call Nicole's kids, Nick and Nicky.

So, what's Nick and Nicky's relationship with Alex and Alexa? They're cousins. Alex and Alexa have two **cousins** just like Nick and Nicky have two cousins.

Well, finally, I would like to mention a few more terms. They're easy, don't worry.

If your mother remarries, then you'll have a new father called **stepfather** or **stepdad**. Or if your dad remarries, you'll have a **stepmother** or **stepmom**.

You, then, become the stepchild of the **stepfather** or **stepmother**. And your **stepfather's** or **stepmother's** children are your **stepbrothers** or **stepsisters**.

And to top it all off, if your mother or father has a new child with your **stepfather** or **stepmother**, then you have a **half-brother** or **half-sister**, or you could say a **half-sibling**.

Are you still there? Great! But don't worry because I won't be expanding this family tree anymore.

Let me now suggest the following exercise. Make a simple family tree of your family and use English vocabulary to define all relationships. Then you can practice. You'll have fun. I'm sure of that! :)

Lately, I've been talking a lot about family members. That's why I'd like to invite you to join an extraordinary family called the Speak English Now Community. You'll find thousands of students just like you.

Go to  Community.SpeakEnglishPodcast.com to become a new member of the family!

POV Story

(Improve your Grammar)

Okay, now let's move on to the point of view story.

This is the way it works: I'm going to tell you a short story from two grammatical points of view. Today we're going to see the first person in the singular and the third person in the singular.

The idea is that you see how the grammar changes when the point of view changes. This makes it easier to remember and learn.

Now you just have to listen carefully. I recommend you listen several times.

All right, let's get started!

Robert's remarried. His new wife, Eve, is delighted to have a new **family-in-law**. Eve was married before, and she didn't get along at all with her **in-laws**, especially with her **mother-in-law**. She said she couldn't cook and didn't feed her **son** well.

Eve, on the other hand, loves her **nephews**, Alex and Alexa. Whenever she can, she bakes them a homemade cake. It seems that Eve, apart from being a good woman, is also a good **aunt**.

Raymond and Rachel, Alexander and Robert's **parents**, are pleased with their new **daughter-in-law**, Eve. They say she's an independent woman, with a good job and knows how to take care of her **husband**. That's a good thing.

Eve has a rather complicated family. Her father remarried another woman. So, Eve has a **stepmother**. They don't really get along, but Eve hasn't taken this new situation on board yet. She would never have thought she'd be someone's **stepdaughter**.

All right! We met Eve in the third person, in the present. Now let's change it to first person, present as well so we can understand how grammar changes.

Robert has remarried. I'm his new wife, Eve. I'm very happy to have new **in-laws**. I've been married before, and I didn't get along with my **in-laws** at all, especially with my **mother-in-law**. She said I couldn't cook and I didn't feed her son well.

I, on the other hand, love my **nephews**, Alex and Alexa. Whenever I can, I bake them a homemade cake. Apparently, apart from being a good woman, I'm also a good **aunt**!

Raymond and Rachel, Alexander and Robert's parents, are pleased with me, their new **daughter-in-law**. They say I'm an independent woman, with a good job and who knows how to take care of her **husband**. That's a good thing.

I have a rather complicated family. My father remarried another woman. So, I have a **stepmother**. The truth is, we don't get along badly, but I haven't taken on this new situation yet. I would never have thought I'd be someone's **stepdaughter**.

All right! What do you think of this technique? In my courses, I create context-rich stories that allow you to remember structures, vocabulary, and grammar even more.

I recommend that you go to courses.SpeakEnglishPod.com now and see which course is right for you.

Well, that's it for today.

Help me **spread the word about the podcast**. Tell your friends and family and leave some comments on iTunes. That would make me very happy!

See you next week! Bye! Bye!



Georgiana

founder of [SpeakEnglishPodcast.com](https://speakenglishpodcast.com)