EPISODE 053

Family Members — Part 2

Full transcript · point of view · vocabulary review

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 father-in-law and Rachel's Alexandra's mother-in-law. And Alexandra's **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 are 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 💬 SpeakEnglishPodcast.com/community to become a new member of the family!

Point of View

Grammar in Context

First version

Third Person · Present Tense

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.

Second version

First Person · Present Tense

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.

Thanks for listening, and I'll see you in the next episode.

Review

Vocabulary from This Episode

Review the most useful words and expressions before listening again.

01 In-laws
Relatives connected to you through marriage.

02 Father-in-law
The father of your husband or wife.

03 Mother-in-law
The mother of your husband or wife.

04 Brother-in-law
A brother of your spouse or the husband of your sibling.

05 Sister-in-law
A sister of your spouse or the wife of your sibling.

06 Nephew / niece
A nephew is the son of your sibling; a niece is the daughter of your sibling.

07 Cousin
The child of your aunt or uncle.

08 Half-sibling
A brother or sister who shares only one parent with you.

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