



## *Live Lesson Notes*

# Neighbours

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## Some useful links

Build your vocabulary on the most popular IELTS topics from my live lessons

<https://courses.keithspeakingacademy.com/p/the-library>

Follow me on **social media**

<https://www.youtube.com/@EnglishSpeakingSuccess>

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# IELTS Speaking Vocabulary: Neighbours

A **neighbour** (UK) /'neɪ. bə/

A **neighbor** (US) /'neɪ. bər/

*I don't have many neighbours*

*I don't know many of my neighbours*

*My neighbour **is** friendly*

A **neighbourhood**

= a local area, community

## Collocations

My next door neighbour

A close neighbour

A good neighbour

A friendly neighbour

Our upstairs neighbours

*She's **been** a good **neighbour** to me*

*She's a good neighbour to me*

To be good **to** someone

## Synonyms

Close (adj.)

Near (adj.)

In close proximity

*They live near us*                      [*'near' + object*]

*They live nearby*                    [*'nearby' has no object*]

*They live in close proximity*

*They live upstairs **from** us*

*They live downstairs **from** us*

An **argument** /'ɑ:g.jə.mənt/

*I had an **argument** with my **neighbour***

## **Synonyms**

A **disagreement** (to have)

A **falling-out** (to have)

A **row** (to have)

A **brawl** (to have) - *a brawl is a more physical argument*

*We had a row about parking spaces on our street*

A **dispute** (there is)

A **conflict** (there is)

*There is a dispute between some of the neighbours about the new park*

## **Do you get on with your neighbours?**

To **get on with** s.o.

= to have a good relationship

- I get on with them
- We get on with our neighbours
- I get along well with them
- We have a superficial relationship
- We treat each other well
- I barely see them
- I never get a chance to see them

## Listening Bingo:



Listen to a man talking about his neighbours

<https://on.soundcloud.com/ddmpQFEfhjxGYj4c6>

1) What are the three whistled words?

I know a [1] \_\_\_\_\_ of my neighbours, mainly those who live very close by, you know those who live in close [2] \_\_\_\_\_.  
I think I know them because I [3] \_\_\_\_\_ into them on a regular basis

**Answers at bottom of PDF**

2) Listen to the whole talk. Mark the boxes that contain the *exact* words you hear. When you have a line of 3, **type** BINGO (and the words) in the chat.

<https://on.soundcloud.com/dGrz2LucU2xT7CVY9>

Cross paths	Study schedules	Count my fingers
Invite over	Knowing your business	A long distance
Helping hand	Keep your pets	Run out of

**Answers at bottom of PDF**

**Full script on next page**

## Full Script

I know a handful of my neighbours, mainly those who live very close by you know those who live in close proximity. I think I know them because I **bump into** (=meet by chance) them **on a regular basis** (=frequently) and other neighbours who live further away, I don't know because we just never **cross paths** (=meet by chance), often I guess, due to different work schedules.

Also some neighbours are not very sociable, they just prefer to **keep themselves to themselves**, so I don't really come into contact with them.

**I can count on the fingers of one hand** (=a few), the number of neighbours I would call friends or let's say, invite round for dinner. Maybe that's a good thing. You don't want everyone in your neighbourhood **knowing your business**.

Also I think sometimes it's a good idea to put some distance between you and your neighbours, not to be too close, just in case you **have a falling-out** with them or there's an argument over something. You know, like they think the branches of a tree in your garden are hanging into their garden.

All that said, of course, neighbours are important. They can help you out. They can **keep an eye on** (=look after, take care of) your pets, if you're going away or even your children, if you know them well enough. If you **run out of** sugar or tea, they can lend you some.



Most of all neighbours can give you that **sense of community**. That sense that you belong to a particular place, and for many of us that's really important.



To **keep [yourself] to yourself** = to spend time alone not talking to others.



*She is a quiet person and prefers to keep to herself*


# IELTS Speaking Idioms: Neighbours

Can you guess these idioms?

① 2   E

3  4 

2  = 

4  2 get her

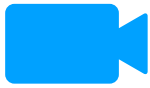
## Dad Jokes 😂

Why didn't I say anything to my neighbour who I saw stealing socks off my clothes line?



Answers at bottom of PDF

## Interview with a Neighbour



Click below to watch the interview and answer this question:



1. Does he like all his neighbours?

**Answers at bottom of PDF**

2) Watch again and note any useful collocations

**Full Script on next page**



## Full Script

### Where do you live?

I live in a **semi-detached house** in one of **the suburbs** of Manchester.

### Do you have a lot of neighbours?

Well yes, I am **surrounded by** neighbours, I mean you could say everyone on our street is a neighbour. But I only really interact with **a handful of them** (= *a few of them*), the ones who live **on either side of me** and a couple who live **across the street** (= *opposite*).

### Do you like your neighbours?

I **get on with** most of them. But there's this one neighbour who is quite **solitary**; he likes to **do his own thing** (= *be alone*). And that's fine! But whenever I pass him on the street he never **lets on** (= *to see and recognise someone*).

So he kinda makes me feel like I'm **a total stranger**, even though I see him three or four times a week.

I wouldn't say I **can't stand him** (= *really not like him*), but nowadays, I don't **go out of my way** (= *to make a special effort*) to be polite or say hello. To be honest, we just **go our own ways**.

# ANSWERS

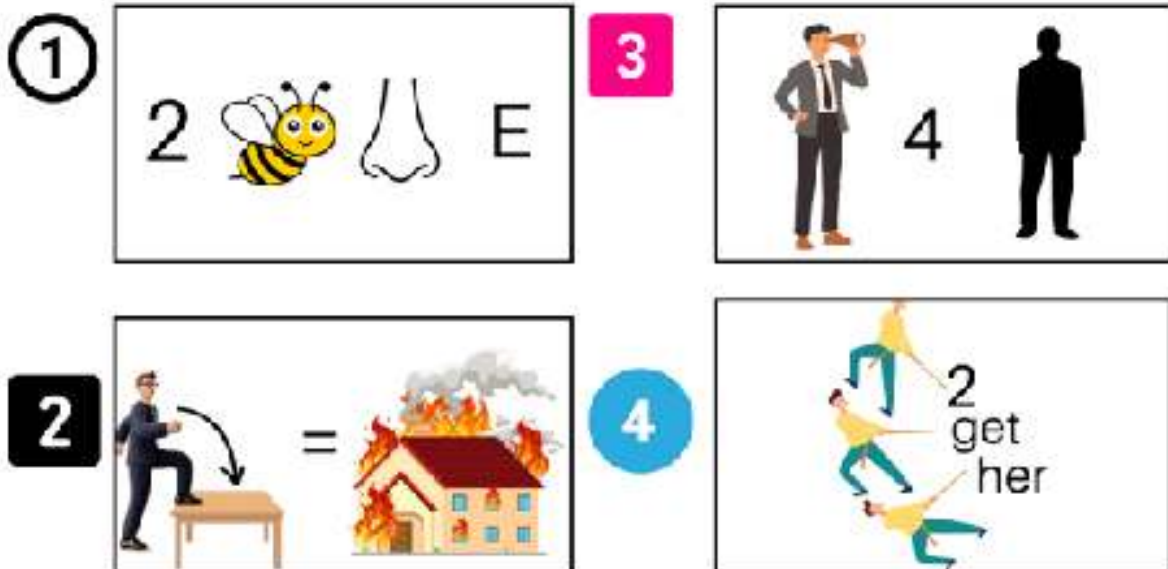
## Listening Bingo:

1. What are the three whistled words?

I know a **handful** of my neighbours, mainly those who live very close by, you know those who live in close **proximity**. I think I know them because I **bump** into them on a regular basis

## IELTS Speaking Idioms: Neighbours

Can you guess these idioms?



1. To be **nosey** (nosy) = To be too interested in other people's lives

*My neighbour is so **nosey**; she always watches from her window when I have visitors.*

*She is a noseey Parker*

2. To get on **like a house on fire** = To quickly become good friends and get on very well

*My new neighbours and I **get on like a house on fire**; we already plan to have dinner together next week.*

3. To **look out for** [someone] = To take care of someone and make sure they are ok. To keep an eye on someone.

*Our neighbours **look out for** each other, especially if someone is sick or needs help.*

4. To **pull together** = To work as a team to achieve something

*When I got promoted, some neighbours **pulled together** to organise a small party to celebrate.*

## Dad Jokes 🤔

Why didn't I say anything to my neighbour who I saw stealing socks off my clothes line?

### Answer

Because I got cold feet

To **get cold feet** = To get nervous and then not do something

## Interview with a Neighbour

1. Does he like all his neighbours?

**Yes, except one.**