## reading text



## **PENPALS**

Andrew: Hi, Alice. I'm on vacation this week! My family and I are staying in a big, beautiful house by a lake. We come here every year with my aunts, uncles, cousins\*, and grandparents.

Alice: How nice! I bet you're having a lot of fun.

Andrew: Well, there are a lot of mosquitoes, but that's OK because I'm having a blast hanging out with everybody. I love to play football, ride bikes, and swim in the lake with my cousins. Guess what! Last year I couldn't row very fast, but this year I can row faster than any of my cousins! But I especially like to see my grandparents. My grandma is so sweet, and my grandpa takes me and my cousins out on the lake every day to go fishing. Gosh, it's too bad I can't see them more often. But they all live pretty far away.

Alice: Really? My grandparents live in the same town where I live, so I see mine almost every week.

Andrew: How lucky! You see, in the U.S., people usually go away to college; after college, they often look for the best job they can find, even if it's in a city far away from home. So sometimes people in the same family only get together once a year, maybe at Thanksgiving or Christmas.

Alice: Oh. That sounds kind of sad.

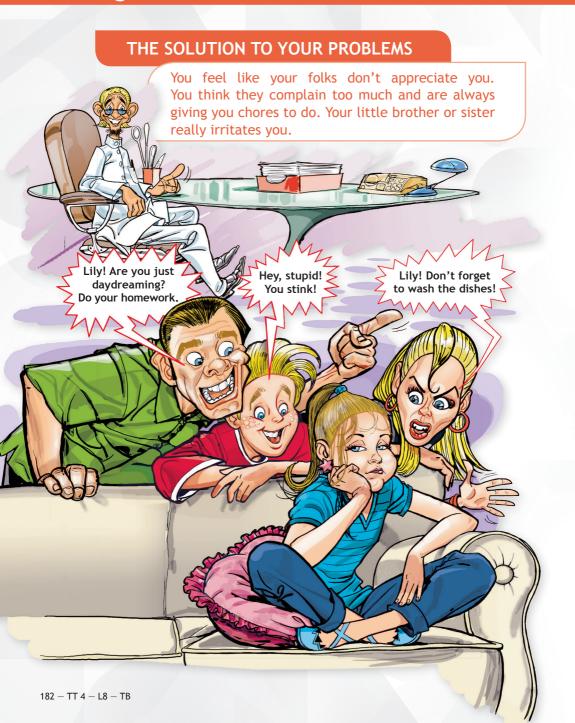
Andrew: Well, that's just the way it is here. Oh, I'm going to send you a picture of me and my grandpa fishing yesterday! The fish were really biting, and there was enough for everybody to have fish for dinner. It was delicious!

Alice: Way to go! OK, have a great time with your family, Andrew. Bye!

Andrew: Thanks, Alice! Bye!

\*A person's cousins are the children of that person's aunts and uncles.

## LESSON 8 reading text



## Does this sound like your life? Then we have the solution: \*Dr. Morfeus's Magic Medicine!\*

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