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# BRITISH ELECTION STUDY 2010

## SELF-COMPLETION QUESTIONNAIRE (ENGLAND)

### INTERVIEWER TO ENTER

<input type="text"/>	Serial number/ respondent i.d.							
<input type="text"/>	Sampling point/area code							
<input type="text"/>	Interviewer number							
<input type="text"/>	Version Number							

### **Completing the questionnaire:**

Most of the questions inside this booklet can be answered simply by placing a cross (☒) in one or more of the boxes. If you have made a mistake in your answer, please completely fill the box to show the mistake (■) and then cross the correct answer. No special knowledge is required. The questionnaire should not take very long to complete, and we hope you will find it interesting and enjoyable. The answers you give will be treated as confidential and anonymous in accordance with the Data Protection Act.

**Only the person who took part in the initial interview  
should complete this questionnaire**

### **Returning the questionnaire:**

Please complete the questionnaire **as soon as you possibly can** and return it in the pre-paid address envelope provided by the interviewer or to:

**Kantar Operations  
Olympus Avenue  
Tachbrook Park  
Warwick  
CV34 6RJ**

**EVERYONE WHO RETURNS THIS QUESTIONNAIRE  
WILL BE ENTERED INTO A FREE PRIZE DRAW:  
FIRST PRIZE OF £500  
THREE PRIZES OF £100  
TEN PRIZES OF £10  
TWENTY PRIZES OF £5**

**THANK YOU AGAIN FOR YOUR HELP.**

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1. Did you care which party won the general election held on May 6th?  
PLEASE CROSS **ONE** BOX ONLY

Cared a good deal   
 Didn't care very much   
 Don't know

2. Some people say that political parties look after the interests of some groups and are not so concerned about others. How well do you think that the **Labour Party** looks after the interests of the following groups?  
PLEASE CROSS **ONE** BOX ON **EACH** LINE

	Very well	Fairly well	Not very well	Not at all well	Don't know
Working class people	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Middle class people	<input type="checkbox"/>				
People who are unemployed or on benefits	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Big business	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Trade unions	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Black people and Asians in Britain	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Women	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Pensioners	<input type="checkbox"/>				

3. How well do you think that the **Conservative Party** looks after the interests of the following groups?  
PLEASE CROSS **ONE** BOX ON **EACH** LINE

	Very well	Fairly well	Not very well	Not at all well	Don't know
Working class people	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Middle class people	<input type="checkbox"/>				
People who are unemployed or on benefits	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Big business	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Trade unions	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Black people and Asians in Britain	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Women	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Pensioners	<input type="checkbox"/>				

4. How well do you think that the **Liberal Democrats** looks after the interests of the following groups?  
PLEASE CROSS **ONE** BOX ON **EACH** LINE

	Very well	Fairly well	Not very well	Not at all well	Don't know
Working class people	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Middle class people	<input type="checkbox"/>				
People who are unemployed or on benefits	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Big business	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Trade unions	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Black people and Asians in Britain	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Women	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Pensioners	<input type="checkbox"/>				

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5. On the whole, would you describe the following political parties as...  
**PLEASE CROSS ONE BOX ON EACH LINE**

	In touch with ordinary people	Out of touch with ordinary people	Don't know
Conservative Party	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Labour Party	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Liberal Democrats	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

6. On the whole, would you describe the following political parties as ...  
**PLEASE CROSS ONE BOX ON EACH LINE**

	United	Divided	Don't know
Conservative Party	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Labour Party	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Liberal Democrats	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

7. On the whole, would you say that each of the following political parties ...  
**PLEASE CROSS ONE BOX ON EACH LINE**

	Keeps its promises	Breaks its promises	Don't know
Conservative Party	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Labour Party	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Liberal Democrats	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

8. On the whole, would you describe the following political parties as ...  
**PLEASE CROSS ONE BOX ON EACH LINE**

	Capable of strong government	Not capable of strong government	Don't know
Conservative Party	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Labour Party	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Liberal Democrats	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

9. Considering everything the Conservative and Labour parties stand for, would you say there is ...  
**PLEASE CROSS ONE BOX ONLY**

- A great difference between them
- Some difference between them
- Or, not much difference between them
- Don't know

10. Generally speaking, do you think of the Liberal Democrats as being closer to the Conservative Party or closer to the Labour Party?  
**PLEASE CROSS ONE BOX ONLY**

- Closer to the Conservative Party
- Closer to the Labour Party
- No difference or not close to either
- Don't know

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11. Did you make use of the *internet* to get news or information about the recent general election held on May 6th?  
PLEASE CROSS **ONE BOX ONLY**

Yes, many times Yes, several times Yes, once or twice No, I have not used the internet to gain news/information about the election 

12. During the election campaign did you visit any of the following websites and if so, how frequently?  
PLEASE CROSS **ONE BOX ON EACH LINE**

	Many times	Several times	Once or twice	Never visited
Official national or local websites of the political parties	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local candidates' websites	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Political blogs (e.g. Conservative Home, Iain Dale's Blog Spot, Lib Dem Voice, Political Betting, Labour List)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Social Networking Groups (e.g. Facebook) organized around a Political Issue	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Online video channels (e.g. YouTube) to View Official or Unofficial Videos about Election Issues, Party Leaders or Local Candidates	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Twitter Sites of Parties, Leaders, or Local Candidates	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
News Organization Websites (e.g. BBC, Guardian, Daily Mail)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

13. Please cross one box on each line to show how much you agree or disagree with each of these statements.  
PLEASE CROSS **ONE BOX ON EACH LINE**

	Agree strongly	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Disagree strongly
The death penalty, even for very serious crimes, is never justified.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Violent criminals deserve to be deprived of some of their human rights	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Convicted criminals need to be rehabilitated rather than be punished.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
People who break the law should be given longer prison sentences.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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14. Please indicate how you feel about general elections in Britain – not a particular election but elections in general. Please cross one box on each line to show how much you agree or disagree with each of these statements.

**PLEASE CROSS ONE BOX ON EACH LINE**

	Agree strongly	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Disagree strongly
Elections help to keep politicians accountable.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Elections allow voters to express their opinions but don't really change anything.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Elections give voters an opportunity to tell politicians what they think is really important.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
All things considered, most elections are just a big waste of time and money.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The electoral system in Britain is unfair because only Labour or the Conservatives can ever win an election.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
In elections, the political parties give people <i>real</i> choices.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

15. Please cross one box on each line to show how much you agree or disagree with each of these statements.  
**PLEASE CROSS ONE BOX ON EACH LINE**

	Agree strongly	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Disagree strongly
Women MPs better represent women's interests than do male MPs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Most men are better suited for politics than are most women.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Women need to get more involved in politics to solve problems that concern them.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A husband's job is to earn the money, a wife's job is to look after the home and family.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Black and Asian MPs can better represent Black and Asian interests than White MPs can.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- 16a. People sometimes use the labels '*left*' or '*left wing*' and '*right*' or '*right wing*' to describe political parties, party leaders, and political ideas. Do you use these labels when thinking about politics?  
**PLEASE CROSS ONE BOX ONLY**

- Yes, very often  Go to 16b  
 Yes, sometimes  Go to 16b  
 No, never  Go to 17

- 16b. Using the 0 to 10 scale below, where the end marked 0 means left and the end marked 10 means right, where would you place yourself on this scale?  
**PLEASE CROSS ONE BOX ONLY**

Left	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Right	10
	<input type="checkbox"/>											

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17. Please cross one box on each line to show how much you agree or disagree with each of these statements.  
**PLEASE CROSS ONE BOX ON EACH LINE**

	Agree strongly	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Disagree strongly
Ordinary working people get their fair share of the nation's wealth	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
There is one law for the rich and one for the poor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
There is no need for strong trade unions to protect employees' working conditions and wages	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Private enterprise is the best way to solve Britain's economic problems	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Young people today don't have enough respect for traditional British values	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Censorship of films and magazines is necessary to uphold moral values	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
People should be allowed to organise public meetings to protest against the government	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
People in Britain should be more tolerant of those who lead unconventional lifestyles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Political parties that wish to overthrow democracy should be allowed to stand in general elections	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
We worry too much about the environment today and not enough about people's jobs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The government has the right to put people suspected of terrorism in prison without trial	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

18. Thinking now of trade unions and big business in this country. First, do you think that trade unions...  
**PLEASE CROSS ONE BOX ONLY**

Have too much power

Or not?

Don't know

19. Do you think that big business in this country...  
**PLEASE CROSS ONE BOX ONLY**

Have too much power

Or not?

Don't know

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20. Now some questions about political parties in Britain, not any particular party, but political parties generally. Please cross one box on each line to show how much you agree or disagree with each of these statements.

**PLEASE CROSS ONE BOX ONE EACH LINE**

	Agree strongly	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Disagree strongly
There is often a big difference between what a party promises it will do and what it actually does when it wins an election	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Political parties are more interested in winning elections than in governing afterwards	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The main political parties in Britain don't offer voters real choices in elections because their policies are pretty much the same	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Political parties do more to divide the country than to unite it	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Political parties spend too much time bickering with each other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parties generally do a good job in finding well-qualified people to run for Parliament	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
In elections, political parties don't tell people about the really important problems facing the country	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Being involved in a group like Greenpeace or the Countryside Alliance is a better way of influencing government than being active in a political party	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

21. Thinking about the outcomes of general elections, which of these statements is more important to you?  
**PLEASE CROSS ONE BOX ONLY**

That one party gets more than half the seats in parliament so it can govern on its own

**OR**

That every party's percentage of seats in parliament is the same as their percentage of the vote

Don't know

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22. There is a lot of talk about democracy these days and people have different opinions about what a democracy should be. Please cross one box on each line to show how much you agree or disagree with each of these statements.

**PLEASE CROSS ONE BOX ON EACH LINE**

	Agree strongly	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Disagree strongly
In a democracy, the majority has a right to pass laws to protect its own language and culture	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A democracy has the right to ban violent political groups, even if it means restricting some individuals' rights	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
In a true democracy, the majority has a responsibility to protect the rights of all minorities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
There is nothing more to democracy than giving people the right to vote in free elections	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
In a true democracy, income and wealth are redistributed to ordinary working people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
In a true democracy, people not only vote, they can influence important decisions affecting their daily lives.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

23. We have a number of parties in Britain, each of which would like to get your vote. Using the scale of 0 to 10 where 0 means **very unlikely** and 10 means **very likely**, how likely is it that you would **ever** vote for each of the following parties?

**PLEASE CROSS ONE BOX ON EACH LINE**

	Very unlikely 0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Very likely 10
The Conservative Party	<input type="checkbox"/>										
The Labour Party	<input type="checkbox"/>										
The Liberal Democrats	<input type="checkbox"/>										
The United Kingdom Independence Party (UKIP)	<input type="checkbox"/>										
The Green Party	<input type="checkbox"/>										
The British National Party (BNP)	<input type="checkbox"/>										
The Respect Party	<input type="checkbox"/>										

24. Generally speaking, which do you prefer...

**PLEASE CROSS ONE BOX ONLY**

A government made up of a single party

Or, a coalition government made up of two or more parties?

Don't know

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25. Please cross one box on each line to show how much you agree or disagree with each of these statements?

**PLEASE CROSS ONE BOX ON EACH LINE**

	Agree strongly	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Disagree strongly
When immigrants come to Britain, they take away jobs from people already here	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Allowing immigrants into Britain enriches British culture	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Letting immigrants into Britain significantly increases the threat of terrorism	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Letting a lot of immigrants into the country threatens the English language	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

26. Please cross one box on each line to show how often you talk about politics with the following people:

**PLEASE CROSS ONE BOX ON EACH LINE**

	Frequently	Sometimes	Rarely	Never	Not applicable
Spouse or partner	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Other family members	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Friends	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Neighbours	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Fellow workers	<input type="checkbox"/>				

27. Do the people you talk about politics with support the same political party as you do?

**PLEASE CROSS ONE BOX ON EACH LINE**

	Yes	Some do, some don't	No	Don't know	Not applicable
Spouse or partner	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Other family members	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Friends	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Neighbours	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Fellow workers	<input type="checkbox"/>				

28. Some people believe we are becoming more connected to people all over the world, while others think our increased ability to interact only with people similar to us will narrow our connections. What do you think? Please *agree* or *disagree* with the following statements -- even if you don't completely agree or disagree, please make a choice for each statement that most closely expresses your opinion.

**PLEASE CROSS ONE BOX ON EACH LINE**

	Agree	Disagree
I think people from different cultures, religions and countries should celebrate what they have in common and not focus on their differences	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
My obligations are mainly to people I have direct connections to (friends and family), not strangers or people I don't know	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Differences across global cultures and religions are too great to manage and we should stop trying so hard to minimize them	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I am citizen of the world	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I try to be sensitive to people from other cultures and religions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I think we should protect our own way of life and worry less about how people from other cultures feel or behave	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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29. Imagine that the people you know well are on different rungs of the ladder shown below. Those who are worst off are on rung 0. Those who are best off are on rung 10. In your opinion, which rung are **you** on?  
*PLEASE CROSS ONE BOX ONLY*

Best off	
10	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	<input type="checkbox"/>
1	<input type="checkbox"/>
0	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worst off	

30. How long have you lived in this neighbourhood?

*PLEASE WRITE IN:*

<b>YEARS</b>	

31. How strong are your feelings of attachment to...  
*PLEASE CROSS ONE BOX ON EACH LINE*

	Very strong	Fairly strong	Not very strong	Not at all strong	Don't know
Your neighbourhood?	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Your constituency?	<input type="checkbox"/>				

32. Please cross one box on each line to show how much you agree or disagree with each of these statements.  
*PLEASE CROSS ONE BOX ON EACH LINE*

	Agree strongly	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Disagree strongly
I feel like I belong to this neighbourhood	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The friends and associations I have with other people in my neighbourhood mean a lot to me	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I like to think of myself as similar to the people who live in this neighbourhood	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I regularly stop and talk to people in my neighbourhood	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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