

Audioscript

Erica: So, Ben, how often do you and Liam actually get together these days?

Ben: Whenever I can, Erica. Usually about once every two months.

Erica: I don't think that's enough, really, to keep a friendship going. Couldn't you visit him each month, or ask him to come here?

Ben: Well, it's a long way to go. More than 400 kilometres, I think.

Erica: How long does it take?

Ben: Over six hours, each way. So you spend half the weekend on the coach, going up and down the motorway. It's so boring.

Erica: How about taking the train? Wouldn't that be quicker?

Ben: I don't think I could afford it. The fares are really high.

Erica: Why don't you get a student travel card? Your tickets would be a lot cheaper.

Ben: Hmm. That's an idea.

Erica: And Liam could get one, too. Then he could sometimes come here on Saturdays and Sundays to see you.

Ben: I don't think he's keen on doing that. He likes his new town a lot. He wants to stay there at weekends, he says.

Erica: I see. So you go and see him, but he never comes here.

Ben: I'm sure that's because there's so much to do there. It's an exciting town, and I know he's made new friends there. But we get on really well and we are not suddenly going to stop being friends.

Erica: No, I'm not saying that at all. But maybe you need to remind him that you've been friends since you were little kids. And tell him how important a friend he is to you. He might not realise that, especially with all the changes in his life right now.