

Dr Cooper: Hey George, I know you just got back from Denmark. I have a question.

George: Tell me!

Dr Cooper: Was it your first time living ... How long were you in Denmark?

George: Well, we lived in Denmark, me and my girlfriend, lived there for about six months. I've been there lots of times before, but it was the first time I lived there and the first time I've lived anywhere else outside of the UK.

Dr Cooper: Was it exciting?

George: It was really exciting. It was a bit scary. I didn't know many people. Only my girlfriend's family and friends. I didn't have any of my friends there, so it was a bit lonely.

Dr Cooper: But isn't that exciting when you don't know anybody else?

George: Exactly. I met some new people and made some good friends, some good Danish friends but it also made me understand how hard it can be to move to a different country, like you did when you came to Oxford.

Dr Cooper: Yeah, it was pretty scary here in Oxford, too. George, are the Danish people different than the English people, do you think, at all?

George: They're very different.

Dr Cooper: How?

George: In England there is a big class system that is really apparent: upper class people, working class people, different social dynamics. And in Denmark it's very egalitarian. And there's not much difference across the country with different social groups so there's more cohesion with groups of people.

Dr Cooper: So, how, like in just normal everyday life, how- what do you see?

George: No one stands out from the crowd. Everyone tries to- well, they don't try but they tend to dress the same, speak the same, go to the same places, share the same values. There's not much difference with their political parties. While I was there, they had a big general election and the far left and the far right are still quite similar in their values. So, it's a very homogenous place.

Dr Cooper: So, there's nobody crazy like me?

George: There's some crazy people but not as many as there are in the UK or maybe in Brazil.

Dr Cooper: Well, that's really interesting, George. I think that was excellent- very informative for me.

George: That's cool, man. It's also a small place. So, there's maybe five, six million people. So, it's not busy. The UK is really busy and there's a lot of people in Brazil as well.

Dr Cooper: I think São Paulo has four times as many people as Denmark.

George: Exactly. Yeah, it was fun. Nice to talk to you.

English by Dr Cooper