
Teenage issues

WORKSHEET A

Listening

Listen to the teacher telling you about the following young people.

Daniel (14)

The reason I get into lots of arguments with my parents is that they always think they know what's best for me, and never listen to my point of view. We argue about things like what time I can stay out until in the evenings, how much homework I should do, what clothes I wear, even my hairstyle. I wish they would give me more space to do what I want to do. I think they don't want me to grow up, so that's why they still treat me like a child.

Michael (16)

I think the biggest problem most teenagers face is peer pressure. There are people at school who will pick on you if you dress or behave differently from them. Some of them will even laugh at you if you don't like the music they like.

In Britain you often read in the papers about the bad behaviour of gangs of teenagers, but I think half the time these kids don't really want to be in a gang, and they only join because they're too scared of being different.

Jemma (15)

Most of my friends complain about their parents, but I get on fine with mine. They do make some rules, for example about where I can and can't go on Friday and Saturday nights, but at least we can discuss things – they have the final say, but they always listen to my opinion first. I guess all parents worry about what their teenage kids get up to when they're not around, but my parents know I'm not completely irresponsible, so they give some independence.

Maybe it helps that I'm the youngest in the family. My brothers and sisters say Mum and Dad were stricter with them when they were my age, but they've become more relaxed since then!

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WORKSHEET B

Exercise 1

/5p

Here are some simple definitions for phrasal verbs that appear in the text on Worksheet A. Find the words they refer to and fill in the gaps.

1. _____ – to change from being a child to being an adult
2. _____ someone – to have a good relationship with someone
3. _____ someone – to often and unfairly criticise or be unkind to someone,
4. _____ something – to do something, especially something that you should not do

Exercise 2

Decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F), or if the text doesn't say (D).

1. Daniel gets on well with his parents. /6p
2. Michael doesn't often have arguments with his parents.
3. Jemma's parents have some rules about what clothes she can wear.
4. Michael thinks that some teenagers join gangs because of peer pressure.
5. Daniel thinks his parents should give him more independence.
6. Jemma's parents let her do anything she wants to do.

Exercise 3

/4

Answer the questions below.

1. In what way do Jemma's brothers and sisters think their parents treat her differently from the way they treated them?
2. Why does Daniel think his parents still treat him like a child?
3. Why does Jemma think her parents give her some independence?
4. What examples of 'peer pressure' does Michael give?

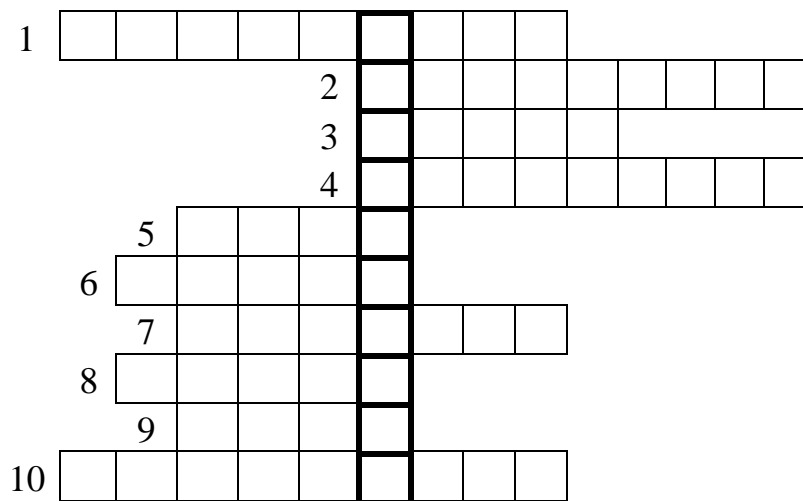
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WORKSHEET C

Exercise 4

/5p

Complete the crossword below. If all the words are correct, another word for 'teenager' will read from top to bottom.



- Daniel certainly _____ about his parents.
- Michael thinks that often teenagers don't like to be _____.
- Jemma's brothers and sisters are _____ than she is.
- It seems Jemma's parents are better at _____ than Daniel's parents.
- Michael talks about groups of teenagers at his school who pick on other teenagers who don't dress in the _____ way.
- Jemma's parents have _____ about where she can go on Friday and Saturday nights.
- Jemma says she is able to _____ things with her parents.
- Daniel says he wants more ' _____ ' from his parents.
- Michael talks about the reasons why teenagers _____ gangs.
- It seems Daniel's parents don't like his _____.

Exercise 5

/30p

You are on holiday in a the same hotel as where Daniel, Michael and Jemma are staying.

You would like to make friends with them. Which of the three would you like best as a holiday friend? Your choice should be made by the way they resemble you, and are brought up in a similar way.

Choose any communication you prefer (msn, Facebook....) to tell your friends at home about kind of friend you have made.

Tell them also what you are doing to enjoy yourselves.

Your text should be between 80 and 100 words.