



TEEN TALK 1

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Major New Edition

20 Teen Issues with 20 Topical Dialogues

45 What Does it Mean Quizzes

88 Comprehension Questions

144 Discussion Points

58 Opinion Samples

20 Reading Practices

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Part I

20 Teen Issues



Various Topics in this Part
Will Help Student **Improve** their
Speaking Ability in Real Situations.

I Like Calvin Klein

I want to be "in⁺." That's why I wear expensive "designer-label" clothes. Popular celebrities⁺ wear top-flight⁺ brand names, so the goods must be very good. Well-known companies take pride in their products, maintain high quality, and provide great after-sales service. So people who buy these items feel the high prices are fair⁺, since "cool"⁺ clothing gives them a good fit⁺ as well as inner satisfaction. My friends and I all like the same clothes, music, movies, and so on. If our parents don't understand us, or don't like what we like, well, that's a problem. But I bet⁺ they had the same feelings when they were young. As for me, I like Calvin Klein.



- in : fashionable
- celebrity : famous person
- top-flight : first-rate; excellent
- fair : just
- cool : excellent; first-rate
- good fit : right size and shape for (sb/sth)
- bet : be sure about (sth)

**What Does It Mean?**

- (1) brand name
- (2) after-sales service
- (3) "cool" clothing
- (4) inner satisfaction

**Comprehension**

- (1) Why does the speaker like to wear clothes with a designer's name on them?
- (2) Is the speaker an ordinary teen-ager?
- (3) What do the stars¹ wear?
- (4) Are brand-name goods worth² their high prices? Give three reasons the speaker thinks that they are.
- (5) Does the speaker feel the same as, or different from, older people?

-star : famous and successful performer in entertainment or famous player in sports

-worth : deserving of



- ① Who buys your clothing? Where do they come from?
- ② Is your taste⁺ in clothes similar⁺ to your parents'?
- ③ Name some famous shoe brands. Do you wear any of these?
- ④ Name some famous jeans. Do you own any of these?
- ⑤ If two pairs of shoes were almost identical⁺, what would be more important in deciding which to buy, cost or brand?
- ⑥ Do you think fashionable brands are worth their high prices?
- ⑦ What are the most important concerns⁺ in choosing what to wear?
- ⑧ Does being "cool"⁺ depend on wearing certain brands?
- ⑨ What is more important, character or celebrity⁺?
- ⑩ What is more important, wearing brand-name clothes or having a good personality⁺?
- ⑪ What are the most important aspects⁺ of having a good personality?

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- **taste** : personal preference or liking
 - **similar** : almost but not exactly the same
 - **identical** : exactly the same
 - **concern** : (sth) that (sb) thinks is important
 - **cool** : impressive because of being fashionable or attractive
 - **celebrity** : state of being famous; fame
 - **personality** : (sb's) character, especially how he behaves toward other people
 - **aspect** : particular part, feature, or quality of (sth)

Opinion Samples >>

(1) This is nothing new. People have always been fashion-conscious. "Clothes make the man" (and woman!) is a very old expression. Wearing expensive clothing shows off⁺ one's high social status⁺ and makes one more attractive to other people. And wearing famous brands is just a common shortcut⁺ to show off one's position, since everyone recognizes them.

(2) Young people have more free time and more money than they ever have had before. In too many cases, they devote themselves to the wrong things. Instead of developing good manners and strong morals, they concentrate⁺ on superficial⁺ and unimportant qualities.⁺ Instead of studying and working hard, they only want to be "popular." And they want to become popular because of what they wear, not because of what they are.

(3) Usually a famous brand represents⁺ a long history of quality and customer satisfaction. Isn't it better to pay a little more for goods that are guaranteed⁺ to have good quality and to last⁺ a long time, rather than pay a little less for products that are shoddy⁺ and will quickly wear out⁺ or break? Besides, in most cases, the designer items also look better than cheaper ones because they are constructed⁺ more carefully, use better materials, and are more fashionable. So, if you can afford⁺ it, why not get the best?

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- **show off** : display or behave in a proud or showy manner
 - **status** : social, legal, or professional position
 - **shortcut** : shorter or quicker way to get somewhere
 - **concentrate** : keep or direct one's thought, attention, or efforts
 - **superficial** : what is merely apparent or obvious; shallow
 - **quality** : characteristic
 - **represent** : stand for (sth); symbolize
 - **guarantee** : make (sth) certain or sure
 - **last** : continue; go on
 - **shoddy** : of poor quality
 - **wear out** : become weak, broken, or useless
 - **construct** : build or form by putting together parts
 - **afford** : have enough time or money for (sth)



(4) Despite their higher prices, designer brands are not necessarily⁺ "better" than others. But the companies that make them spend more money on flashy⁺ advertising to play tricks on⁺ people's minds. Just because some enterprise⁺ pays a fortune⁺ to a gorgeous⁺ celebrity to model⁺ its jeans, does this mean that everyone else will look as good as she does? Just because a famous athlete is paid lots of money to wear certain shoes, does this mean that anyone wearing them will also be a great sportsperson? The fact is that these firms pay tiny wages to desperate⁺ people in the world's poorest countries to make these goods, and then sell them at grossly⁺ inflated⁺ prices.

- not necessarily : not always or not in every situation

- flashy : brilliant

- play tricks on (sb) : fool (sb)

- enterprise : business company or organization

- fortune : very large amount of money

- gorgeous : incredibly beautiful

- model : show clothes by wearing them at fashion shows, in magazine photographs, etc. esp. as a job

- desperate : suffering or driven by a great need for (sth)

- grossly : very or extremely

- inflated : increased too much

Read & Discuss

The Downside of Desire

Today's youth strongly desire top-brand goods. But this situation leads to many undesirable side effects^a. For example, some young people get part-time jobs so they can buy these items, and this may poorly affect their scholastic performance. What is worse, those who cannot buy the goods may feel they have to have them anyway, even if they have to engage in^b criminal behavior. The third alternative^c is for parents just to give in^d and buy whatever the kids want, abandoning^e their own proper role in deciding what is "right" for their own children. None of these trends bode well^f for the young generation's future.



1. Of the three behaviors, which is likely to be the best one for young people? Why?
2. Why does scholastic performance matter^g more than having brand-name items? Or, does it?

- **downside** : negative aspect
- **lead to** : result in
- **side effect** : unexpected or unplanned result of a situation or event
- **engage in** : take part in a particular activity
- **alternative** : choice between two or more possibilities
- **give in** : surrender; yield
- **abandon** : give (sth) up completely
- **bode well** : be a good sign
- **matter** : be important

Tomorrow Is My Birthday

Tomorrow is a very special day for me. It is not a public holiday, for all to share. It is my own, very private, holiday – my birthday. Because it is “mine,” I think I have the right to *celebrate*⁺ it the way I wish, not how someone else wants. I should be able to have it where I desire and to decide who to invite. Let other people do their own birthday parties the way they wish, but they should leave mine alone. That way we can all be happy at least one day each year. Is this too much to ask?

So, this is what I would like to do. I want to go to an amusement park⁺ with my six best friends. We should spend all day there and ride every ride⁺ together. Then we should all go to a special restaurant, where my favorite food is served, and enjoy a good meal. I can open all my presents there, too. Afterwards, I think it would be cool if we went to a movie and then had some ice cream before we went home.



⁺**celebrate** : do (sth) special because of a particular event or special occasion
⁺**amusement park** : place where people pay money to go on rides and play games to win prizes
⁺**ride** : machine at an amusement park that people ride in for fun

**What Does It Mean?**

- (1) celebrate it the way I wish
- (2) Is this too much to ask?

**Comprehension**

- (1) Why is tomorrow special?
- (2) What does the speaker want?
- (3) Why does the speaker think he has a right to do whatever he wants tomorrow?
- (4) Does the speaker think everyone should celebrate birthdays the same way?
- (5) What would make people briefly* happy?
- (6) How many of the activities would you enjoy doing? All of them in the same day?

*briefly : for a short time



- ① Do you think the speaker will get his wish?
- ② If you could celebrate your own birthday the way you wanted, what would you do? Where would you like to go? How many people would you invite?
- ③ Would you rather celebrate your birthday with just your relatives* or just your friends?
- ④ Do you remember what gifts you received on your last birthday?
- ⑤ What would you like most to get for your birthday this year? Is the cost of a present important to you?
- ⑥ What kind of gift do you usually prepare for your friend's birthday? Your mother's? What about for other family members?
- ⑦ Which is a better present, a well-chosen gift or money?
- ⑧ Are birthdays really important?

*relative : person related by blood or marriage

Opinion Samples >>

(1) Really, a birthday is just another day. What's so special about it? Just because someone is a year older, does that actually matter?⁺ Has it changed the person's character,⁺ or made him smarter or richer? Won't he be the same person tomorrow as he was yesterday? So birthdays are just an excuse⁺ to get more material possessions without working for them. But most people already have more things than they need or use.

(2) I really get a kick out of⁺ shopping for the perfect present for someone I know. It usually takes a lot of time and thought, and sometimes a lot of money too. But the look on the person's face when he gets something he really likes is worth all the trouble. If we give something to someone, it's not supposed to be just a thing — it should be a sign of our love and the regard⁺ we have for the person we are giving it to. Giving is a shared experience, not just a financial⁺ transaction⁺.

(3) It's so hard to find the "right" gift for someone. Many times I have bought something that I thought was "special," only to find out that the person already had one or that it was the wrong size or that he didn't really like it. So it is much easier just to give money. That way the person can get what he truly wants. He is the only one who really knows what will make him happy!

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- **matter** : be of importance
 - **character** : qualities that make up someone's personality
 - **excuse** : explanation that is given to justify or obtain forgiveness
 - **get a kick out of (sth)** : enjoy doing (sth) very much
 - **regard** : esteem or affection
 - **financial** : involving money
 - **transaction** : action or process of buying or selling (sth)



Read & Discuss

Love



1. Love does not hurt. Physical and/or emotional abuse⁺ are not a part of love.
2. Love is not manipulative,⁺ it should not be used to get others to do what you want. And you should never give in⁺ to demands based on⁺ the "You would do it if you loved me!" tactic.⁺
3. Love is an intense feeling of caring for another person. It can take many different forms (romantic, social, familial) but it is always about caring.
4. Although it is true that a big part of love is putting another person's happiness ahead of your own, this never includes compromising⁺ your values⁺ or being untrue to yourself.
5. If somebody asks you to do something that you don't want to do in order to "prove" your love, they do not love you the way you might think they do. When you love others, you don't ask them to sacrifice⁺ a part of themselves in the name of⁺ love; you accept them completely for what they are.
6. It is very easy to confuse lust⁺ for love. The true measure of romantic love is commitment⁺ and trust, not physical attraction.

+ **abuse** : harsh or severe treatment

+ **manipulative** : controlling or deceiving people

+ **give in** : stop competing or arguing and accept that winning is not achievable

+ **base on** : use particular ideas or facts to make a decision

+ **tactic** : particular method or plan for achieving (sth)

+ **compromise** : adjust or surrender (one's principles) dishonorably

+ **value** : belief or principle that (sb) uses to make judgments

+ **sacrifice** : give up (sth) for (sth) considered to be of greater value

+ **in the name of** : with appeal to or by authority of

+ **lust** : intense sexual desire

+ **commitment** : strong or firm belief shown by (one's) actions

7. It is possible to feel romantic love for more than one person at a given time. Just think: if it is possible for you to love both of your parents at the same time, why would it be impossible to feel romantic love for two people at once? Don't beat yourself up¹ emotionally if you find yourself in this unhappy situation. But be sure to remain single and be open and honest with all parties about your feelings and confusion.
8. Sex is NOT love. Love is NOT sex. Sex can be a part of romantic love but it is never mandatory.²
9. Romantic love can (and often does) fade.³ When it goes, there is not always a reason. When somebody falls out of love⁴ with you it does not reflect upon⁵ your value as a person or your desirability.
10. Love should make you feel happy, secure⁶ and appreciated.



1. How do you know that you love someone?
2. How can you tell if someone loves you?

→ **beat (sb) up** : blame or criticize (sb)
 → **mandatory** : required; obligatory
 → **fade** : lose freshness, strength, or vitality
 → **fall out of love** : no longer be in love with (sb)
 → **reflect upon** : show the nature of (sth)
 → **secure** : free from fear, anxiety, or doubt

Do I Really Like School?

Most days I really like school a lot. Why? Because I can meet my friends there. Because I can be myself, not just act like other people want me to be. Because I admire most of my teachers and learn a lot from them. Because I know school is important for the rest of my life: my job, how much money I will have—even maybe who I will marry. Because at school I don't have to listen to my mom's nagging.*

But sometimes I don't want to go to school. Why not? Some of the teachers are very mean† and don't like me. I study too hard every day and never have enough time to enjoy my life. There is too much homework. The tests are too hard, and the pressure to do well is too great. I don't have any chance to think about the important things in my life; all I do is memorize facts!

My friends are too busy too, so being with them is not much fun. There are days I just want to stay in bed or go to a movie or relax.‡ But what can I do?



*nag : frequently tell (sb) to do (sth)
 †mean : without kindness or goodwill
 ‡relax : rest and allow yourself to become calm

**What Does It Mean?**

- (1) I can be myself.
- (2) all I do is memorize facts!

**Comprehension**

- (1) Does the speaker like school?
- (2) Does she realize the importance of school?
- (3) Does she like her teachers?
- (4) Does she like her friends? What is their problem?
- (5) Why doesn't she like school?



- ① What about you? Do you like school? Why or why not?
- ② What do you like best about school? What do you like the least?
- ③ Why do we have to study English?
- ④ Why do we learn math?
- ⑤ Why do we do music or art in school?
- ⑥ Which subject is your favorite? Why?
- ⑦ Who is your favorite teacher? Why?
- ⑧ Who is the most unpopular teacher at your school? Why?
- ⑨ Would you like to be a teacher?
- ⑩ If you could choose between going to school all year long but only five days a week, or going to school on Saturdays and Sundays but getting two long vacations each year, which would you prefer?

Opinion Samples >>

(1) Although kids never know it, their schooldays are the best years of their life. They don't have the worries that adults have, working and trying to support⁺ a family, making difficult choices about what to do. Sure, studying is hard. But in school, at least there are always "right" answers. In life after school, it often seems like none of the options⁺ is very good.

(2) A lot of youngsters complain about how hard they have to study. But I really like to learn new skills and facts. It's fun! After putting in a lot of thought and effort, doing well on an exam or showing off what I've learned is worth all the trouble I put in. I look at younger kids and realize how little they know, and think that just a few years ago I was just like them!

(3) Kids don't have any opportunity⁺ to be kids! They will never be young again. But instead of being allowed to have fun, they have to spend all day every day buried⁺ in books and papers. While the sun is shining, they can't go for a walk or play in the park. At night, they can't go dancing or have a party. All they can do is study and sleep, sleep and study. And they don't even get to sleep very much! We have a right to have some fun too, you know.

- **support** : provide money, food, shelter, or other things that (sb) needs in order to live

- **option** : choice

- **opportunity** : chance to do (sth)

- **buried** : with all your attention given



Read & Discuss

Bullies

1. Bullies come in all ages, sizes, races, religions, and in both genders.*
2. Bullies use many tactics to threaten and harass* people including, but not limited to, words and physical violence.
3. People who behave in openly hostile* behavior, who threaten others to make themselves feel powerful, or who build themselves up by tearing others down* are bullies.
4. Girls are more likely to bully with words, while boys most often resort to* physical attacks. For this reason, bullying by girls is often ignored* or not taken as seriously as bullying by boys. The reality* is that both types of bullying are very serious.
5. Words can be just as harmful as physical violence and can cause lasting* psychological* damage to their victims.* The old adage,* "Sticks and stones can break my bones but words will never hurt me!" is simply not true.
6. Never try to handle a bully alone. Always go to a person with authority* over the bully, such as a teacher, the principal, or a parent. Never suffer in silence. Responsible adults will help you if you tell them what is



- **bully** : person who enjoys frightening or hurting smaller or weaker people
- **gender** : sexual identity
- **harass** : annoy or torment (sb) repeatedly
- **hostile** : unfriendly
- **tear down** : criticize (sb) in a mean way
- **resort to** : do (sth) extreme or unpleasant in order to solve a problem
- **ignore** : pay no attention to (sb/sth); disregard
- **reality** : fact, event, or situation as it really exists
- **lasting** : continuing to exist or have an effect for a long time
- **psychological** : involving or affecting one's mind
- **victim** : (sb) who has suffered as a result of the actions or negative attitudes of (sb) else
- **adage** : short proverb or saying generally considered to be wise and true
- **authority** : the power to enforce laws, command obedience, or judge

happening. Studies have shown that bullying stops when adults step in,⁴ and telling an adult rarely makes the situation worse.

7. Ignoring bullies does not make them stop. Only adult intervention⁴ and awareness can end the harassment. Bullies thrive on⁴ the reactions of their victims, so ignoring them merely makes them step up⁴ their efforts. However, if you tell an adult and then ignore the bullying behavior, the bully will usually back off.⁴ But start ignoring the behavior only after you have made as many adults aware of the problem as possible.

8. As children grow into teens, bullying behaviors often escalate.⁴ Death threats, taunts⁴ urging suicide,⁴ group attacks, and violence with weapons can occur. This sort of behavior is criminal⁴ and should always be reported to the police as well as to school officials and parents.



1. Have you ever felt bullied? Describe the situation.
2. What do you think about handling the situation yourself, instead of getting adults to handle it?

- **step in** : enter into an activity or a situation, esp. to intervene in a conflict
- **intervene** : become involved in a situation in order to try to stop or change
- **thrive on** : gain from a particular situation
- **step up** : increase (sth), esp. in stages
- **back off** : retreat or move away, as from a dangerous position
- **escalate** : increase by stages, as in value, scope, or intensity
- **taunt** : cruel remark that is intended to ridicule or make (sb) angry or upset
- **suicide** : act of intentionally killing oneself
- **criminal** : relating to illegal acts

Do I Want to Go to College?

I wish my parents understood me better. They're both good people and I love them. And I know that they only want what is best for me. But sometimes they have very old-fashioned ideas. About college for instance. Like every other parent, all they can think about is my going to college. But I study very hard, and I'm very tired of not having time of my own.



I have many other interests I would like to pursue.⁴ I'm very good at⁴ playing baseball, for instance. If I didn't have to study so hard, maybe I could play professionally.⁴ And even my parents think I sing and play the guitar extremely⁴ well. If I could practice more, I think I could make a lot of money on television. People with athletic or musical talent can make a much better living than mere college graduates.⁴ But even if they never become famous sportsmen or entertainers,⁴ people don't need to go to college to do well economically.⁴ For instance, I'm sure I could use my computer skills to get me a good job when I leave high school, even if I never get a college degree.

- **pursue** : try to gain or accomplish
- **good at** : able to do (sth) well
- **professional** : relating to work or career
- **extremely** : very
- **graduate** : person who has received an academic degree or diploma
- **entertainer** : person who performs for an audience
- **economically** : in ways relating to money

**What Does It Mean?**

- (1) old-fashioned ideas
- (2) I could play professionally

**Comprehension**

- (1) Does this person like his parents?
- (2) What is his complaint about them?
- (3) What skills does he think he has?
- (4) Why doesn't he think his parents understand modern life?
- (5) What do they want him to do? Why doesn't he want to do it?



- ① Are you interested in studying hard?
- ② Do you want to go to college? If so, what do you want to major in?^a
- ③ What do your parents think about your going to college?
- ④ Do you think a college degree is necessary for success?
- ⑤ You know a college education costs a lot. Do you think it is a good investment?^b
- ⑥ Would you go to college if you had to pay for it yourself?
- ⑦ What do you think would happen to you in the future if you did not ever go to college?
- ⑧ Do you think that parents have a right to insist that their children go to college, even if the kids don't want to?
- ⑨ Imagine that you don't want to go to college. How would you persuade^c your parents not to send you?

^a **major in** : study (sth) as one's main subject at a college or university

^b **investment** : (sth) that one is willing to spend money on now because it will provide benefits in the future

^c **persuade** : cause (sb) to do or believe (sth) by arguing, pleading, or reasoning; convince

Opinion Samples >>

(1) Kids are restless¹ by nature. Most of them would rather play than study. Many of them think that they have some special talent that will make them rich and famous. But of course very few people ever succeed in sports or show business. The competition² is too intense³ and the opportunity⁴ too small. But many doors are opened to people with an education. This is even more true today, in our very complicated,⁵ technological world, than in the past. A college education is by far⁶ the best bet⁷ for success.

(2) While it is true that education has always been a key to success, the definition⁸ of education is changing very rapidly. Degrees⁹ are no longer the magic pieces of paper they once were. Very rare¹⁰ and special skills, such as computer programming, clothing construction, or film direction, or even more traditional kinds of talents such as the ability to write or compose music or paint a picture, are in great demand.¹¹ And less exalted¹² professions such as carpentry¹³ and plumbing¹⁴ are always needed. There are many possibilities in life, and everyone has different interests and abilities. A college education is only one of many ways to achieve satisfaction and success.

→ **restless** : unable to relax or be still

→ **competition** : activities of people who are trying to get (sth) that other people also want

→ **intense** : very great or extreme

→ **opportunity** : available chance

→ **complicated** : difficult to do, deal with, or understand

→ **by far** : by a great deal; very much

→ **the best bet** : the thing or action that gives the best chance of a successful result

→ **definition** : statement that explains the meaning of (sth)

→ **degree** : academic title awarded by a college or university for completing a required course of study

→ **rare** : not occurring often; uncommon

→ **in demand** : wanted by a lot of people

→ **exalted** : having high rank or status; dignified

→ **carpentry** : making things from wood or repairing things that are made of wood

→ **plumbing** : job of fitting and repairing pipes, water tanks, and other equipment used for supplying and storing water



(3) People are only young once. And only people who are young at heart⁺ as well as in age can have big dreams and not be afraid to make them come true⁺. So what if not everyone who tries to do something special actually succeeds? A few always do make it, and they not only have the satisfaction of doing what they love, they also give all the rest of us something special too. So I would say: follow your heart.⁺ Follow your dream. If you try and fail, that is better than not ever having tried at all. If you do not succeed, you can always go back to school later. But if you go to college, get a job, and raise⁺ a family, how will you ever get to know if you have the special ability you thought you had?

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- **young at heart** : thinking and behaving as though young
 - **come true** : become a reality
 - **follow (one's) heart** : do what (one) intuitively wishes
 - **raise** : take care of

Read & Discuss



If You Think of Dropping Out

1. It's a really bad idea, if things are bad at school because you are being harassed (sexually or otherwise) or bullied. Try changing schools rather than quitting.
2. It is not worth all the trouble and hard work if the academics¹ are too hard. See your school counselor for classes that better suit your aptitude.²
3. Dropouts have a harder time getting good, secure,³ decently⁴ paying jobs. More and more entry-level and trade-specific⁵ jobs require⁶ at minimum a high school graduation, and many at least some training after high school.
4. Dropping out gives you a lot of free time. Even if you get a full time job, you are more likely to get into a self-destructive rut,⁷ maybe even by abusing⁸ drugs and/or alcohol.
5. Pregnancy⁹ is not a good reason to drop out and get a job. Look at your options before taking such a drastic¹⁰ step.
6. Being a dropout is much harder than you think it will be. What would you do all day?
7. Going back to school as an adult is not as easy as you might think, and it often costs more in terms of time and effort.
8. Dropping out is not cool, it does not make you a "tough guy," nor does it mean you have "grown up" — in fact, it is the exact opposite.



1. Have you ever thought seriously about dropping out? What were your reasons?
2. What would you tell your friend who wanted to quit school?

- **drop out** : stop attending school or college
 - **academics** : subjects that students study in school
 - **secure** : assured; certain
 - **specific** : relating to only one particular thing
 - **rut** : situation that is boring and difficult to change
 - **abuse** : use (sth) in a way that is harmful to one's health
 - **pregnant** : having an unborn baby growing inside of a woman
 - **drastic** : severe or extreme in nature

- **aptitude** : natural ability or talent
 - **decent** : adequate; passable
 - **require** : demand

I Want a Clean World

Today when I went to school I could hardly see the sky because of the smog.¹ The noise pollution² from all the construction and the cars and buses almost deafened³ me. Everywhere, I saw paper and garbage piled up or blowing across the streets, and cigarette butts littering⁴ the landscape. Even the trees looked dirty and forlorn.⁵



I hate the way some people pollute the environment just to make some money. They are already old and won't have to deal with⁶ the problems they create. They never seem to think about the next generation.⁷ In this case, the next generation⁸ is me and my friends. We are the ones who are going to have to breathe the bad air and drink the poor water. We are the ones who are going to get the lung diseases and cancers from their poison. We are the ones who will have to look at an ugly world for the rest of our lives. We are the ones who will suffer, long after the adults have made their profits⁹ and passed on.¹⁰ But what will their money have gained them in the end?¹¹

→ **smog** : fog that has become polluted with smoke and chemicals, usually present in large urban or industrial areas

→ **pollute** : make foul or unclean, esp. with harmful chemical or waste products

→ **deafen** : overwhelm or stun with noise

→ **litter** : make untidy by scattering things about

→ **forlorn** : sad or lonely

→ **deal with** : take action to do (sth), esp. to solve a problem

→ **generation** : group of people who grow up at about the same time, often thought to have similar social and cultural attitudes

→ **profit** : money made in a business venture

→ **pass on** : pass away; die; be gone

→ **in the end** : eventually; ultimately

**What Does It Mean?**

- (1) cigarette butts
- (2) next generation

**Comprehension**

- (1) What is the complaint¹ voiced here?
- (2) What forms of pollution are listed?
- (3) Who does the speaker blame² for all the pollution?
- (4) Why do people make the world unclean?
- (5) Who will pay the price,³ according to the speaker?

- **complaint** : expression of pain, dissatisfaction, or unhappiness
- **blame** : hold (sb) responsible
- **pay the price** : have to deal with the bad effects of (sth)



- ① What causes air pollution?
- ② What causes water pollution?
- ③ Who (or what) do you think is most responsible for the current environmental problems?
- ④ Do you really think we can reverse¹ the level of pollution that already exists?
- ⑤ What do you think ordinary people can do to solve the problem?
- ⑥ What do you think the government should do? Business?
- ⑦ Do you think you do everything you can to avoid polluting the environment?
- ⑧ If it meant a cleaner world, would you be willing to sacrifice some of the conveniences² you enjoy now? For example, what if the use of automobiles were to be severely³ restricted⁴ to help preserve⁵ air quality? What if computer games were outlawed⁶ to save electricity?

¹reverse : turn (sth) around to the opposite direction

²conveniences : (sth) that provides comfort or saves effort, such as a device or service

³severely : in a very strict or extreme way

⁴restricted : controlled by laws and rules

⁵preserve : maintain (sb/sth) in safety; protect

⁶outlaw : make (sth) illegal

Opinion Samples >>

(1) Teenagers should not just complain about what adults do. They should not just leave the problem to the oldsters to deal with. They should voice⁺ their discontent⁺ about the government's policies. They should organize campaigns⁺ to volunteer⁺ to clean things up. But maybe even more importantly, they should be more aware of their own roles and stop polluting the world themselves. They should start to clean up for themselves.

(2) The real problem is the modern world. The factories, the cars, the air conditioners, the electric and electronic devices we all rely on⁺; these are the causes of pollution. When people lived in the old days, before the industrial revolution,⁺ pollution was not a problem. But in the recent past, the world population⁺ has exploded⁺, and people everywhere want to live a convenient, comfortable, interesting life. They want to travel quickly and easily. They want to have their music with them wherever they go. They want to play computer games or watch TV at any time. They want to go to the movies without having to sweat or freeze inside. All of these activities use a lot of energy, and it is the burning up⁺ of this energy that is destroying⁺ the natural world.

(3) Let me tell you one of the things that really upsets⁺ me. I like to go hiking⁺ in the mountains to get away from the noise

→ **voice** : express (sth) in words

→ **discontent** : dissatisfaction

→ **campaign** : organized activity to reach a political, social, or commercial goal

→ **volunteer** : offer a service of one's own free will without pay

→ **rely on** : depend on

→ **Industrial revolution** : the period when machines began to be used for mass production of goods

→ **population** : the number of people living in a particular area, country, etc.

→ **explode** : increase suddenly and sharply

→ **burn up** : use up energy

→ **destroy** : ruin (sb/sth) completely; spoil

→ **upset** : make (sb) worried, unhappy, or distressed

→ **hiking** : walking long distances



and dirt of the city. But even there, the loudspeakers and the radios fill the air with noise. And all I see everywhere is waste paper and empty bottles and cans and other litter.⁴ Nobody seems interested in trying to preserve the natural beauty; nobody wants to clean up the mess⁵ other people make, or even their own mess. People go into the woods or the mountains, they throw away their used-up products, and they leave, without a thought for what the next person will find there. But they sure complain about the mess others have made!

→ **litter** : carelessly scattered scraps of paper or other waste material
→ **mess** : disorderly or dirty condition

Read & Discuss

Is It a Lose-Lose Situation?

We are in a dilemma.* No government in the world can afford to push a harsh* anti-pollution* policy* because of the dreadful* economic effects it would cause. At the same time, pollution is already choking* us to death.



What can we do? The nations that have already caused the problem, getting their citizens the comfortable modern lives that industrialization provides, are the same countries that complain the loudest when developing nations try to catch up. Doesn't every country have a right to make it possible for its people to live longer, healthier, and richer lives?

The problem, of course, is that resources* are being used up at an increasing rate. Petroleum is becoming scarce,* just as animals and plants are becoming extinct.* As people move into the cities, more and more farmland is disappearing. Even as the automobiles and smokestacks* are adding their poisons to the air, the rain forests,* that change the carbon dioxide back to oxygen, are being cut down. But the burning of fossil fuels,* the construction of new homes, the use of cars and factories—these are what define and make modern life possible. None of the advanced societies are willing to cut back on their own comfort, but they are desperate* to keep the others backward* and poor.



1. Can you and your society do with less than you have now?
2. Should you have to do so? What about others?

- **dilemma** : situation that requires a choice between options that seem equally difficult or unfavorable
- **harsh** : painful; severe
- **policy** : plan, principle; or course of action, as of a government or a business
- **choke** : stop (sb's) breathing by blocking the air passage in the throat
- **resource** : source of wealth for a country, esp. natural supplies
- **scarce** : not enough to meet a demand or requirement
- **smokestacks** : tall chimney for expelling waste
- **rain forest** : large woods in a rainy, usually tropical, region of the world
- **fossil fuel** : energy source made from decayed material from animals or plants that lived many thousands of years ago, esp. coal and oil
- **desperate** : having an urgent need, desire, etc.
- **backward** : less advanced than others, as in economic or social progress
- **anti** : prefix that means "opposite"
- **dreadful** : very bad
- **extinct** : no longer existing or living

My Worries

The world today revolves around* my troubles. Chief among them are The Big Four: Exams, Pocket Money,* Dates, and Dieting.

Test-taking is a way of life. It seems that all I do is study for some exam, take it, study for another one, take, study.... Is this all there is? I guess I do okay on my exams, but I cram* for them for weeks at a time, and a day later I seem to forget everything, so I wonder what I really learn. But meanwhile, the pressure! I wish there were some way to end this.

Though I have too many exams, I never have enough money. I don't get a very large allowance* to begin with,* and the little I have doesn't last very long. I try to budget* myself, but by the end of the week I'm always short.* What can I do to improve this situation?

Another problem is dating. Part of the difficulty is deciding where to go on a date. What can I do that my date would also like? But an even bigger problem is that my friends seem to have



→ **revolve around** : have (sth) as a main subject or purpose

→ **pocket money** : small amount of money used to buy unnecessary things, esp. given to children by their parents

→ **cram** : study hurriedly before an examination

→ **allowance** : amount of money given at regular intervals

→ **to begin with** : in the first place

→ **budget** : carefully plan and control how much (sb) spends

→ **short** : not having enough of (sth)

a lot more dates than I do, so I wonder what I'm doing wrong. What can I do to be more popular than I am?

The last thing on my list is my weight and my appearance. My whole body seems to be changing all at once: my voice, my face, my size, my shape — everything! I try to eat healthy meals and to watch⁺ my calories, and I try to get lots of exercise, but nothing seems to help.



What Does It Mean?

- (1) The world today revolves around my troubles.
- (2) I'm always short.



Comprehension

- (1) How many worries does this writer have?
- (2) What does he seem to spend most of his time doing?
- (3) Does he think studying hard teaches him anything?
- (4) Does he think his spending money is adequate⁺ to his needs? Why or why not?
- (5) Does he seem to have high self-esteem⁺ about his looks and his popularity?⁺
- (6) How is he changing?

→ **watch** : be careful of (sth)

→ **adequate** : as much as is needed for a particular purpose; enough

→ **self-esteem** : pride in oneself; self-respect

→ **popularity** : state of being liked by many people



- ① Are you nervous⁺ about your upcoming⁺ exams?
- ② How do you prepare for tests?
- ③ What happens if your grades fall short of⁺ your expectations?
Are you disappointed, or don't you worry much about it?
What about your parents?
- ④ What do you do when your exams are over?
- ⑤ How much pocket money do you get? What obligations do you have to get it?
- ⑥ How do you spend it?
- ⑦ Do you think money makes people happy?
- ⑧ How much money do you expect to make in the future?
- ⑨ How do you get a date?
- ⑩ What do you wear on a date? Where do you go?
- ⑪ What do you talk about on a date?
- ⑫ Are you on a diet now? Why or why not?
- ⑬ Have you ever been on one? Was it easy? Was it successful?
- ⑭ If you were on a diet now, what would your plan be?
- ⑮ Do you think that you can stay fit⁺ by dieting?

→ nervous : uneasy ; anxious

→ upcoming : happening soon

→ fall short of (sth) : fail to meet a goal or to reach a particular level

→ fit : in good physical condition; in good health

Opinion Samples >>

(1) Kids can't help but feel confused and worried during their teen years. They are not children any longer, but they are not yet adults either. They are no longer helpless,⁺ but they aren't totally independent⁺ of their parents. Their lives are full of change, but they don't have enough life experience yet to see that this is a normal part of life. All they can do is try to be patient—but impatience⁺ is the hallmark⁺ of youth.

(2) All people—teenagers and adults alike—have personal problems. No one is perfect. Everyone could have a better condition in some aspect.⁺ We are all “too short,” “too tall,” “too poor,” “too stupid,” or too “something.” We can all improve our situation to some extent⁺, but none of us can achieve the perfect solution. And of course we all have built-in⁺ limitations,⁺ like intelligence⁺ and size, that we can't do anything about. But knowing these things doesn't keep us from worrying about our shortcomings.⁺

-
- **helpless** : unable to manage by oneself
 - **independent** : not controlled, supported, or guided by others
 - **impatience** : unwillingness to tolerate anything that hinders; irritation at having to wait for (sth)
 - **hallmark** : distinguishing characteristic, feature, or trait
 - **aspect** : particular part, feature, or quality of (sth)
 - **to some extent** : partly, but not completely
 - **built-in** : forming a part of (sth) that cannot be separated from it
 - **limitation** : disadvantage or weak point that makes (sb/sth) less effective
 - **intelligence** : capacity to gain and use knowledge; mental ability
 - **shortcoming** : inadequacy; flaw

Read & Discuss

Fad Diets: Too Good to Be True!

Fad⁺ diets are a short-term approach to losing weight but never deliver lasting weight loss. You should always be skeptical⁺ about any diet that:



- Claims⁺ or implies⁺ weight loss of more than one kilogram per week. Gradual weight loss increases the chances of keeping pounds off; most rapid weight loss is quickly followed by an equally rapid gain of new weight.
- Promotes a “magical” or “miracle” food. No foods “melt away fat.” Every food is stored by the body in the form of fat and must be burned off.
- Restricts⁺ or eliminates⁺ certain foods, recommends certain foods in large quantities, insists on specific food combinations, or has rigid⁺ menus. Losing weight is actually very simple and enjoyable, and based on common sense: any combination of eating less and exercising more will remove fat.
- Implies that exercise and other lifestyle changes are unnecessary. Exercise alone is far more effective than a change in diet alone.
- Relies heavily on undocumented case histories, testimonials⁺ and anecdotes⁺ but has no scientific research to back up⁺ claims. These are advertising ploys,⁺ not evidence.

The truth is that losing weight permanently takes⁺ work. Eating habits need to change and activity needs to increase. Doing so is not always easy, but the concept⁺ itself is extremely simple.



1. What are some popular diets among teens? Do you think they produce the expected results?
2. Do you think you need to diet? Why or why not?

-
- **fad** : (sth) that is popular or fashionable for only a short time
 - **skeptical** : having doubts about (sth) that other people think are true or right
 - **claim** : promise
 - **imply** : say or express (sth) indirectly
 - **restrict** : keep or confine (sb/sth) within limits
 - **eliminate** : get rid of (sb/sth); remove
 - **rigid** : strict
 - **testimonial** : statement in support of a particular fact, truth, or claim
 - **anecdote** : random account or story about (sth)
 - **back up** : give one's support to (sb/sth)
 - **ploy** : way of tricking (sb) in order to gain an advantage
 - **take** : need or require
 - **concept** : general idea or understanding, esp. one based on known facts or observation

Adults Are Liars



Today my mother told me never to tell a lie, but then she fibbed⁺ to her friend about why she didn't meet her on time. Yesterday my father told me how terrible it is to drink and smoke, but at the time he had just finished his third bottle of beer and was giving me money to take to the store to get him cigarettes. And they both pretend⁺ to be very honest, religious people, with very high moral standards. But it seems every day they do at least one thing they lecture⁺ me about not doing. They seem long⁺ on maxims⁺ but short⁺ on example. And

→ fib : tell a small lie

→ pretend : claim that (sth) is true when it is not

→ lecture : scold or warn (sb) at length

→ long on (sth) : having or doing too much of (sth)

→ maxim : brief statement of a basic principle; proverb

→ short on (sth) : having less of (sth) than one should have

the papers and news programs on TV are full of preachers⁺ and politicians who are either committing⁺ terrible sins⁺ or cheating people, just for their own amusement or advancement.⁺ It's bad enough that people do bad things. But why do they make it worse by making up⁺ lies about what they do?



What Does It Mean?

- (1) They seem long on maxims but short on example.



Comprehension

- (1) What did the mother lie about? Why do you think she did?
- (2) What did the father lie about? Why?
- (3) What do community leaders lie about?

-
- **preacher** : one who makes religious speeches or leads religious ceremonies in some Christian churches
 - **commit** : make a mistake or commit a crime
 - **sin** : shameful or wrong action
 - **advancement** : promotion
 - **make up** : invent an explanation for (sth), esp. in order to avoid being punished or embarrassed



- ① Most parents insist that their children study hard, read good books, and be courteous⁺ and friendly to everyone, don't they? But do they do these things themselves?
- ② Parents say children should always keep their promises. Have your parents ever reneged⁺ on a promise? What were the circumstances?⁺
- ③ Do your parents always obey the law? Traffic rules,⁺ for instance?
- ④ Sometimes adults say they smoke or drink too much because their job "forces" them to. Is this the truth or just a lame excuse?⁺
- ⑤ What is the biggest example of your parents saying one thing but then doing another?⁺
- ⑥ Should people tell "white lies"⁺ or not?
- ⑦ Is honesty the best policy?⁺ Why or why not?

→ **courteous** : polite, esp. in a formal way

→ **renege** : fail to carry out a promise or duty

→ **circumstance** : particular situation

→ **traffic rules** : laws or practices to regulate how people should drive

→ **lame excuse** : insufficient reason

→ **saying one thing but then doing another** : being hypocritical

→ **white lie** : untruth about a small matter, often told to keep from hurting (sb) else's feelings

→ **policy** : principle

Opinion Samples >>

(1) Unfortunately, part of growing up is learning that life is not really simple. It is not always clear or plain. Sometimes people do things that are not exactly right because it is easier or more convenient for them. Sometimes they will excuse their “white lies” as not wishing to hurt someone. Sometimes they are not even aware that they are doing something bad, because they don’t know all the facts or because they are emotionally involved and not thinking straight. Sometimes they do not even know what the right thing to do is. Even so, people do have a moral sense. And they want their children to be better than they themselves are. So a parent will tell his kids how to behave⁴ and hope that it will be possible for them to be good when they grow up. But the children eventually⁴ grow up and find the same kinds of conflicts⁴ and puzzles their parents faced and will probably repeat their mistakes—even while they are telling their own offspring⁴ to “do what we say and not what we do.” Only a few people are always able to be truthful, and they usually pay a very high price for their candor.⁴

(2) Actually, telling the truth is a simple thing once we form the habit. It is not always pleasant to know the truth, and it is never easy to tell others bad things that are true. But the ill⁴ consequences⁴ are still minor compared to the distortions⁴ and confusions and complications⁴ that result from the untruth. “Oh what a tangled web we weave when first we practice to deceive”⁴

• **behave** : act or react in a particular way

• **eventually** : at the end of a process or period of time

• **conflict** : state of disagreement

• **offspring** : (sb)’s child or children

• **candor** : honesty, even when the truth is not pleasant

• **ill** : bad, harmful, or destructive

• **consequence** : result or effect of (sth)

• **distortion** : change away from the actual

• **complication** : (sth) that makes a process or activity more difficult to deal with

• “Oh what a tangled web we weave when first we practice to deceive” : “Lying leads to confusion instead of order.”

is an old saying that is both obvious and correct. The bad results that sometimes arise from telling the truth are of brief duration¹ and may serve to discipline us to do better next time. But the seeds of dishonesty grow into weeds of deception that may never get cleared away, and our efforts to lie our way out of difficulty² just cause the correct path to become even more obscure,³ until we become permanently lost.

(3) I find that "situational morality" is a very useful principle. In some situations one kind of behavior is perfectly legitimate,⁴ and other times not. If it is always wrong to tell a lie, then what about a soldier who is captured by the enemy and tortured⁵ to reveal⁶ information that the other side would use to kill, wound, and defeat his countrymen? Should he tell them everything he knows? What about the times when telling someone that she is pretty (when she isn't) or looking well (when he looks very sick) could cause unnecessary pain or embarrassment to those we love and respect? Isn't it better sometimes knowingly⁷ to lie rather than knowingly cause even worse damage by telling the truth?

-
- **duration** : length of time that (sth) continues
 - **lie (one's) way out of difficulty** : say (sth) untruthful to avoid a bad consequence
 - **obscure** : difficult to understand; not clear
 - **legitimate** : supported by logic or common sense; reasonable
 - **torture** : cause (sb) great pain
 - **reveal** : make known; disclose
 - **knowingly** : deliberately; on purpose
-
- **confrontation** : situation in which people or groups argue angrily or fight with each other
 - **band aid** : temporary way of coping with a problem that will not really solve it
 - **guarantee** : make (sth) certain or sure
 - **compound** : make a problem or situation worse
 - **self-esteem** : pride in oneself; self-respect
 - **depression** : feeling extremely unhappy; medical condition in which (sb) is too unhappy to live a normal life
 - **dominos** : thin numbered rectangles used to play a game, or, by placing them near each other and knocking one of them down so it falls against the next one and causes them all to fall down
 - **knock out** : make (sth) useless or prevent from working
 - **unforeseeable** : impossible to know about or expect
 - **gamble** : act of doing (sth) uncertain; risk
 - **haunt** : be bothered by (sth), esp. from one's past
 - **chronic** : lasting for a long time or often repeated
 - **psychiatric** : connected with the treatment of mental illness
 - **disorder** : sickness of the body or mind
 - **drastic** : strong, sudden, and often severe
 - **superficial** : not important or not having a big effect

Read & Discuss

Lies



1. Lying is the number-one reason that people lose trust.
2. The most common reason that people lie is to avoid confrontation¹. Getting in trouble is never fun, but lying to avoid it is always a "band-aid"² solution. When the truth comes out the confrontation is guaranteed³ to be even more unpleasant than it would have been without the lie. A lie compounds⁴ the problem; it doesn't solve it.
3. Another common reason people lie is to make themselves seem "better" or more interesting than they are. This sort of lying can be a sign of low self-esteem,⁵ problems at home, or depression⁶.
4. Lies are like dominos:⁷ one lie can knock out⁸ whole relationships, destroy entire aspects of one's life or even limit one's future in unforeseeable⁹ ways.
5. Lying is gambling.¹⁰ Every time you lie, you take a chance on being caught.
6. Lies have a way of getting out and coming back to haunt¹¹ you.
7. The worst lies are the ones you tell to yourself. And when you lie to others you are also lying to yourself.
8. Chronic¹² lying can signal a psychiatric¹³ or social disorder.¹⁴ If you find yourself "lying for no reason" or to cover up behavior that you know is harmful, consider seeking professional help.
9. Lies can damage your self-image and cause inner conflicts that drastically¹⁵ change the way you view, and act upon, the world you live in.
10. "Little white lies" are lies that are told about superficial¹⁶ things when the truth would only hurt some other person. They are not told to avoid confrontation or cover up some harmful actions. For example: telling another friend that a haircut looks good when you don't really like it is a "little white lie." Nobody is hurt, and your friend feels good.



1. According to the text, why is lying wrong?
2. Are there any exceptions?

Top Ten Things that Adults Should Do

- 1) They should stop smoking.
- 2) They should stop drinking.
- 3) They should stop nagging their children.
- 4) They should stop yelling.*
- 5) They should stop arguing with each other.
- 6) They should not be allowed to spank* their children.
- 7) They should make enough money to keep their families happy.
- 8) They should spend more time with their own families, not just once a week but every day.
- 9) They should be more honest.
- 10) They should let their kids do anything they want!

While making this list I realized that my parents would not pass the test. On Monday I got into trouble. My mother screamed¹ at me for what seemed like hours, and then spanked me. That night my dad came home really late, and the fight between him and Mom woke me up. Tuesday morning I wanted to stay at home. I didn't feel very well. But I had to go to school anyway. On Wednesday my father told me not to smoke or drink — boy, he should practice what he preaches!² My father smokes like a chimney and drinks almost every night. I never see him until Sunday. On Thursday Mom wouldn't let me alone; she was after³ me all night to do my homework better. So it isn't even the end of the week yet, and already my folks have missed⁴ most of the items on the list!



*yell : cry out loudly, as in excitement or pain

*spank : slap (sb) on the buttocks with a flat object or open hand

*scream : make a loud, sharp cry

*practice what (one) preaches : do (sth) that one tells others to do

*be after : pursue relentlessly

*miss : fail to accomplish (sth)

**What Does It Mean?**

- (1) He should practice what he preaches.
- (2) My folks have missed most of the items on the list!

**Comprehension**

- (1) Why is the speaker so unhappy?
- (2) How was he punished?
- (3) When is the father at home?
- (4) Does the father smoke? Drink? What about Mom?
- (5) How many rules were broken on each day?

TEEN TALK!

- ① Do you think the situation described is ordinary?
- ② How many of these rules do your parents obey?
- ③ Which item on the list do you most strongly agree with?
- ④ Which one do you disagree with the most?
- ⑤ What would your "Top Ten" list be?
- ⑥ If you were an adult, do you think you could pass all ten items?



Opinion Samples >>

(1) It is natural for a young person to feel alienated¹ from his parents. Adults are more mature, more tired, more experienced, and less idealistic² than kids are. They realize that the world is not a perfect place and they can't always do the things they really want to do, even if they hope that life will be better for their own kids. Boys and girls may see the world with great innocence³ and clarity,⁴ but they are still protected from most pressures and hardships.⁵

(2) If adults have lost their ideals, they should not put the blame on how "difficult" things are. They ought to confess that they have made bad choices and understand that their children want to look up to them. Teenagers do not know all the answers either, of course, but often they clearly know how things could be better. And they can be more critical about their own behavior, and change bad habits more easily, than adults can, but only if everyone in the family is equally honest and willing to try. Kids are people too!

(3) Naturally, making a list outlining⁶ someone else's shortcomings⁷ is always easier than meeting somebody else's standards.⁸ If someone wanted to criticize your behavior, don't you think they could probably draw up⁹ a list of at least 10 items? The real trick¹⁰ would be to draw up a list now about parental misbehavior and try to apply it to your own life when you grow up. Recognize now what kinds of activities and attitudes are wrong, and try to be consistent¹¹ later on.

→ **alienated** : feeling separated or isolated

→ **idealistic** : believing very firmly in (sth) which is good but probably impossible to achieve

→ **innocence** : lack of experience of life and the bad things people do

→ **clarity** : clearness

→ **outline** : give the main points of (sth); summarize

→ **standards** : traditional principles of good behavior

→ **trick** : effective and skillful way of doing (sth) difficult

→ **consistent** : continually following the same principles or course of action

→ **hardship** : cause of suffering or difficulty

→ **shortcoming** : inadequacy; flaw

→ **draw up** : write up (sth)

Read & Discuss

10 Reasons Not to Hit Your Kids

1. Hitting children teaches them to become hitters themselves. Extensive^a research data is now available that shows a direct correlation^a between corporal punishment^a in childhood and aggressive^a or violent behavior in the teenage and adult years. Virtually^a all of the most dangerous criminals were regularly threatened and punished in childhood. It is nature's plan^a that children learn attitudes and behaviors through observation and imitation of their parents' actions, for good or ill.^a Thus it is the responsibility of parents to set an example of empathy^a and wisdom.
2. In many cases of so-called "bad behavior," the child is simply responding in the only way he can, given his age and experience, to neglect of basic needs. Among these needs are: proper sleep and sufficient freedom to explore^a the world around him. But his greatest need is his parents' undivided attention. In these busy times, few children receive sufficient time from their parents, who are often too distracted^a by their own problems and worries to treat their children with patience and empathy. It is surely wrong and unfair to punish a child for responding in a natural way to having important needs neglected. For this reason, punishment is not only ineffective in the long run,^a it is also clearly unjust.
3. Punishment distracts the child from learning how to resolve conflict in an effective and humane^a way. A punished child becomes preoccupied^a with the feelings of anger and fantasies of revenge,^a and is thus deprived^a of the opportunity to learn more effective methods of solving the



- **extensive** : of great extent; wide; broad
- **correlation** : connection or relationship between two or more things
- **corporal punishment** : physical punishment by hitting (sb)
- **aggressive** : showing hostile behavior
- **virtually** : almost but not quite; nearly
- **plan** : intention
- **for good or ill** : whether the effect will be good or bad
- **empathy** : understanding another's situation, feelings, and motives
- **explore** : travel in or search (an area) for the purpose of discovery
- **distract** : draw attention away from (sth)
- **in the long run** : not immediately but eventually
- **humane** : showing the qualities of tenderness, kindness, and compassion
- **preoccupied** : thinking or worrying about (sth) a lot, with the result that (sb) does not pay attention to other things
- **revenge** : (sth) done to hurt or punish (sb) in retaliation
- **deprived** : not having the things that are essential for a comfortable life



problem at hand.⁴ Thus, a punished child learns little about how to handle or prevent similar situations in the future.

4. Punishment interferes with⁵ the bond between parent and child, since it is not human nature to love someone who hurts us. The true spirit of cooperation⁶ which every parent desires can arise only through a strong bond based on mutual⁷ feelings of love and respect. Punishment, even when it appears to work,⁸ can produce only superficial⁹ good behavior based on fear, which can only take place until the child is old enough to resist. In contrast, cooperation based on respect will last permanently,¹ bringing many years of mutual happiness as the child and parent grow older.
5. Many parents never learned in their own childhood that there are positive ways of relating to² children. When punishment does not accomplish the desired goals, and if the parent is unaware of alternative³ methods, punishment can escalate⁴ to more frequent and dangerous actions against the child.
6. Anger and frustration² which cannot be safely expressed by a child become stored inside: angry teenagers do not fall from the sky. Anger that has been accumulating³ for many years can come as a shock to parents whose child now feels strong enough to express this rage. Punishment may appear to produce good behavior in the early years, but always at a high price, paid by parents and by society as a whole, as the child enters adolescence⁴ and early adulthood.
7. Even relatively moderate spanking¹ can be physically dangerous. Blows to the lower end of the spinal column send shock waves along the length of the spine and may injure the child. Some children have become paralyzed¹ through nerve damage from spanking, and some have died after mild

-
- **at hand** : close by; near
 - **interfere with** : prevent (sth) from happening or developing in the correct way
 - **cooperation** : act of working together toward a common end or purpose
 - **mutual** : shared in common
 - **work** : have the desired effect or result; be successful
 - **superficial** : apparent rather than real
 - **permanent** : happening or existing for a long time or for all time in the future
 - **relate to** : be able to have a good relationship with people by understanding their feelings and behavior
 - **alternative** : allowing a choice between two or more possibilities
 - **escalate** : increase in intensity, degree, or amount
 - **frustration** : annoyed or impatient feeling caused by being prevented from doing (sth)
 - **accumulating** : increasing; building up
 - **adolescence** : the period of growth and physical development that leads from childhood to adulthood

paddlings,* due to undiagnosed* medical complications.*

8. Physical punishment gives the dangerous and unfair message that might* makes right, that it is permissible* to hurt other people provided* they are smaller and less powerful than we are. A child then concludes that it is okay to mistreat younger or smaller children. When he becomes an adult, he feels little compassion* for those less fortunate than he is and fears those who are more powerful. This will hinder* the establishment of meaningful relationships essential to an emotionally fulfilling* life.
9. Because children learn through parental modeling, physical punishment gives the message that hitting is an appropriate* way to express feelings and to solve problems. If a child does not observe a parent dealing with difficulty in a creative and humane way, it will be difficult for him to learn to do this for himself. For this reason, unskilled parenting often continues into the next generation.
10. Gentle instruction, supported by a strong foundation of love and respect, is the only truly effective way to bring about commendable* behavior based on strong inner values, instead of superficially "good" behavior based only on fear.



1. Does corporal punishment work, in your opinion?
2. What do you feel about teachers using corporal punishment in school?

- * **spank** : hit a child on his or her buttocks as a punishment
- * **paralyzed** : unable to move one's body or some part of it, usually because of an illness or injury

- * **paddle** : hit a child with a piece of wood as a punishment
- * **undiagnosed** : not recognizing a medical condition
- * **complication** : (sth) that makes a medical condition more dangerous or difficult to treat
- * **might** : physical strength; force
- * **permissible** : allowed to be done by a law or rule
- * **provided** : on the condition; if
- * **compassion** : feeling of sympathy and caring for (sb)
- * **hinder** : cause delay, interruption, or difficulty in; hamper
- * **fulfilling** : making one feel satisfied
- * **appropriate** : correct or right for a particular time, situation, or purpose
- * **commendable** : praiseworthy

What's Wrong with Liking Pizza?

My parents are worried that I eat too much fast food.¹ When I go out with my friends, we like to eat pizza sometimes. It tastes good and I think it's pretty healthy since it has lots of good ingredients.² It has bread and cheese and meat and lots of vegetables, so it includes four of the five basic food groups. Eating pizza, then, is a very efficient³ and delicious way of getting a balanced diet.



I also think that it is very monotonous⁴ to eat the same kinds of food every day. Korean cooking does not have much variety.⁵ Most food I eat at home is either just very bland⁶ or it all tastes like red pepper. But pizza is different than kimchi; and the different kinds of pizza are also different from each other.

So I don't understand what all the fuss⁷ is about. I eat ordinary dishes most of the time, but sometimes I like a change.

- **fast food** : food that is prepared and served quickly in a restaurant
- **ingredient** : element in a mixture
- **efficient** : performing or functioning effectively with the least waste of time and effort
- **monotonous** : unchanging and dull
- **variety** : diversity
- **bland** : lacking distinctive character; dull; flat
- **fuss** : expression of concern or worry, esp. over an unimportant matter

**What Does It Mean?**

- (1) balanced diet
- (2) I don't understand what all the fuss is about.

**Comprehension**

- (1) What is the parents' concern?
- (2) Why does the person speaking think eating pizza is good?
- (3) How often does she eat pizza?
- (4) Who does she usually eat it with?
- (5) What are the four food groups in a pizza? Do you know which one is absent?¹
- (6) According to the speaker, how does Korean food taste?
- (7) Do you think that variety or health is the main concern of the speaker?

¹absent : lacking; missing



- 1 What kind of Western food do you like?
- 2 Do you think Western food, like pizza and hamburgers, costs too much?
- 3 What is your favorite Korean food?
- 4 Do you like kimchi? Do you eat it at every meal? Do you think you could go without kimchi for very long?
- 5 Do your parents force you to eat certain foods? If so, how does that make you feel?
- 6 Do you think that Koreans have to eat kimchi as part of their national identity?¹
- 7 What kinds of Korean foods do you think are popular among foreigners?²

→ **identity** : sense of self

→ **foreigner** : person from another country or place

Opinion Samples >>

(1) "We are what we eat." This is a popular belief. It means that if we eat healthy food we will be healthy. If we eat a lot of sugar or fat, we will get fat ourselves. But it also means that we eat certain kinds of food because our culture trains us to do so. A typical¹ American breakfast, for instance, might consist of² a bowl of cereal, bacon or sausage, some scrambled eggs, toast, and fruit juice (coffee for adults). Anything else would seem strange. So it is true that Koreans define themselves by their diet. Even if they move to another country to live, their eating habits are the very last customs³ they lose. Even if a Korean family has lived outside the country for generations,⁴ they probably still eat fish, rice, kimchi, and lots of red pepper.

(2) Emperor Charles V once said that learning another language gives us another soul;⁵ but I think that eating other cultures' dishes works even better. Due to⁶ the ease of travel nowadays, people are losing their narrow definitions of nationality. Westerners regularly eat many foods from all over the world; so they eat spaghetti, which is closely associated with⁷ Italy but actually came from China; hamburgers, named after a German city; and even kimchi! The change in diet gives us all more variety in life, expands⁸ our experience, and allows us to share our daily ways of life.

→ **typical** : having the usual features or qualities of a particular group or thing

→ **consist of** : contain a number of different parts or things

→ **custom** : (sth) that is done by people in a particular society because it is traditional

→ **generation** : average period of time between the birth of a person and the birth of that person's children

→ **soul** : spiritual nature of a person, regarded as the source of thought and emotion

→ **due to (sth)** : because of (sth)

→ **associated with** : related with

→ **expand** : increase the size, number, volume, or scope of (sth)



(3) It's odd⁴ sometimes which things are readily adopted⁵ by foreign cultures and which ones are not. What Korean foods do you think other people would like? Most American supermarkets carry canned kimchi. And ramyon has become a very popular fast dish. But dried squid has not gained much acceptance, and most Korean-style seafood dishes have little appeal. Many visitors to Korea rave over⁶ bulgogi or samgyetang, but can't find the proper ingredients at home to prepare it properly. However, the foods that are widely enjoyed abroad⁷ usually have their character changed to meet⁸ local tastes, so probably most Koreans would not care much for other people's "Korean" dishes—even their own favorites.

-
- **odd** : different from what is normal or expected; strange
 - **adopt** : accept and use or follow (sth)
 - **rave over** : talk in a very excited way about (sth), saying how much one admires or enjoys it
 - **abroad** : out of one's own country; away
 - **meet** : satisfy

- **gossip** : trivial talk, often involving rumors of people and their personal affairs
- **maim** : injure (sb) seriously, esp. permanently
- **cunning** : smart and designed to trick people
- **malicious** : showing a desire to harm or hurt (sb)
- **age** : becoming old
- **flourish** : grow or develop well or in great amounts; thrive
- **helpless** : unable to manage by oneself; powerless
- **track down** : follow and find (sb/sth)
- **elusive** : tending to escape
- **tarnish** : destroy the good name of; stain; discredit
- **reputation** : general opinion of (sb) held by the public
- **topple** : push or throw (sth) over; overturn or overthrow
- **wreck** : bring (sth) to a state of ruin
- **indigestion** : pain in the stomach due to difficulty of digesting food
- **spawn** : bring about
- **suspicion** : state of uncertainty; doubt
- **generate** : produce
- **headline** : title of a newspaper article, usually printed in large type
- **repeat** : tell (sth) to (sb) else

Read & Discuss

Gossip

My name is Gossip.
 I have no respect for justice.
 I maim⁺ people without killing.
 I break hearts and ruin lives.
 I am cunning⁺ and malicious⁺ and gather strength with age⁺.
 The more I am quoted the more I am believed.
 I flourish⁺ at every level of society.
 My victims are helpless.⁺
 No one can protect himself against me because I have no name and no face.
 To track me down⁺ is impossible. The harder you try, the more elusive⁺ I become.
 I am nobody's friend.
 Once I tarnish⁺ a reputation,⁺ it's never the same.
 I topple⁺ governments and wreck⁺ marriages.
 I ruin careers and cause sleepless nights, heartaches and indigestion.⁺
 I spawn⁺ suspicion⁺ and generate⁺ grief.
 I make innocent people cry in their pillows.
 I am called Gossip.
 Office gossip.
 Shop gossip.
 Party gossip.
 Telephone gossip.
 I make headlines⁺ and headaches.
 Before you repeat⁺ a story, ask yourself, Is it true? Is it fair? Is it necessary?
 If not—Shut Up.



1. Why is spreading gossip likely to be a bad thing to do? Can you think of any case in which it might be a good thing?
2. Why do people like to gossip about other people? Why don't they want to be told something about themselves?

TV Watching



I don't understand my parents when they tell me I watch too much TV. In the first place, I hardly watch any at all; I'm too busy studying all week to have any time for television! But sometimes when I'm very tired I just like to relax and be a passive observer until I can get my "batteries charged"⁴ again. What's wrong with that? TV programs can make me laugh and make me cry. They can even make me think. I can instantly find out what's happening anywhere. I can see how other people live, how they think. I can learn how my favorite sports teams are doing—I can even watch them do it! And quiz shows can help me with my schoolwork. For all these reasons, I think television is everyone's window on the world.

⁴get batteries charged : rest or relax in order to get back one's energy

**What Does It Mean?**

- (1) passive observer
- (2) “batteries charged” again
- (3) everyone’s window on the world

**Comprehension**

- (1) What is it that the speaker does not understand?
- (2) What seems to be the parents’ main concern?
- (3) Name the good reasons listed in favor of watching television.
- (4) Why doesn’t the speaker think he watches too much TV?



- ① How often do you watch television? How many hours a week?
- ② What kinds of programs do you watch most often?
- ③ What is your favorite show?
- ④ Do you like to watch the commercials,⁺ or do you detest⁺ them?
- ⑤ Do you believe what commercials tell you?
- ⑥ Do you think watching television interferes with⁺ your schoolwork?
- ⑦ Would you call TV an "idiot box"?
- ⑧ What kinds of shows should little children watch? Are any kinds of programs harmful?
- ⑨ Do adult shows, such as soap operas,⁺ have any bad effects? If so, what are they?
- ⑩ What kinds of shows are most suitable for people your age?
- ⑪ Who decides what to watch on TV in your home?

→ **commercial** : advertisement on radio or television

→ **detest** : dislike (sb/sth) strongly

→ **interfere with (sth)** : prevent (sth) from happening or developing in the correct way

→ **soap opera** : overly-dramatic television or radio story about the daily lives of the same group of people

Opinion Samples >>

(1) Some time ago a wise person described TV as “a vast wasteland.”⁴ Things have not gotten much better since then. A television producer always tries to appeal¹ to the largest, dumbest² audience, because these are the people who are most likely to believe the propaganda (the commercials) and go out and buy the useless, expensive products being sponsored.³ These are the same people who regard the “stars” as being worthy of admiration and imitation; but actually the singers and actors are just being promoted like detergent⁴ or other goods. More people should read a good book or develop closer relationships with their friends and families, and stop watching so much bad TV!

(2) Television is one of the most important inventions ever made. If politicians lie on TV, we can all see it in their faces. If something serious happens that will change our lives forever, we can find out about it at once. With TV, we can travel anywhere in the world without leaving our homes. We can even go to the moon or to Saturn! Television opens the whole universe to us and makes it impossible for bad secrets to be hidden.

(3) Critics⁵ of television miss the point.⁶ WE decide what will be broadcast.⁷ WE determine the content.⁸ The TV producers just use the media to mirror⁹ our own wishes. Some programming is

→ **wasteland** : real estate that is empty, ugly, and not useful for anything

→ **appeal** : make an earnest plea

→ **dumb** : unintelligent; stupid

→ **sponsor** : give money to or pay for sports event, show, broadcast etc. in exchange for the right to advertise at that event

→ **detergent** : liquid or powdered soap used for washing clothing, dishes, or other items

→ **critic** : person who judges or criticizes

→ **miss the point** : not understand what (sb) means

→ **broadcast** : send out messages or programs to be received by radios or TVs

→ **content** : subject, ideas, or story of a piece of writing or a radio or television program

→ **mirror** : match or express the qualities, features, or feelings of (sb/sth)



good, some is funny, some is educational, some is just plain⁺ trashy.⁺ But different people have different personalities and different tastes. So they watch different television shows and movies, listen to different kinds of music, play different sports, read different books. Actually, I think TV does a real good job at representing⁺ the diverse⁺ moods⁺ and interests of its viewers.

-
- **plain** : simply
 - **trashy** : in very poor taste or of very poor quality
 - **represent** : describe (sth) as having certain characteristics
 - **diverse** : of various kinds or forms
 - **mood** : state of mind or feeling

Read & Discuss

TV or Not TV – That Is the Question

Today, more and more parents are paying attention to research on the long-term benefits¹ of setting strict limits on pastimes² that can be bad for kids. Television is a major battleground.³ Research shows children glued to⁴ the set for more than 10 hours each week are more likely to be overweight, aggressive⁵ and slower to learn in school. For that reason, experts⁶ discourage screen time for children under 2 and say parents should limit exposure⁷ to TV, video games, and computers to a maximum of two hours a day for older kids. Interacting⁸ with people instead of listening passively to TV characters⁹ helps children learn language and become creative, independent learners.



1. Why do you think watching television promotes aggressive behavior among kids? Or do you disagree?
2. On the other hand, many good speakers of English claim⁹ that they picked up their skill by watching a lot of American television. What do you think about that notion?¹⁰

- **benefit** : (sth) that is of help; advantage
- **pastime** : activity that a person does for fun
- **battleground** : subject that people disagree or argue a lot about
- **glued to (sth)** : looking at (sth) and not paying attention to anything else
- **aggressive** : behaving in an angry, threatening way, as though to fight or attack
- **expert** : (sb) who has a special skill or special knowledge of a subject, gained as a result of training or experience
- **exposure** : state of being put into a harmful or dangerous situation
- **interact** : talk or work together
- **character** : person in a book, play, movie, etc.
- **claim** : state that (sth) is true, even though it has not been proven
- **notion** : belief or opinion

Vacation Plans

Let's see. This year for my vacation I think I'd like to go to Hawaii. I'll spend all day on the beach and all night watching hula dancers. I'll go wind surfing and swimming. I'll stay in a nice hotel and make friends with some beautiful people.

Or else I'll go to Hollywood to see the movie stars and go to Disneyland. I'll watch them make some movies—maybe if I'm lucky I can even appear in one. And I'll go to the La Brea Tar Pits and look at the preserved⁺ skeletons⁺ of extinct⁺ animals, and to Yosemite Park to see the giant redwood trees.

Or maybe I'll go to Australia to see the kangaroos and koala bears. People say that the Aussies⁺ speak English strangely, but I bet I can understand them. The best part about going there is that the weather is upside down,⁺ so if it is too hot here I can go there to cool down, and if it is too cold here I can warm up there!



• **preserved** : permanently kept in a certain condition

• **skeleton** : bones

• **extinct** : no longer existing

• **Aussie** : (sb) from Australia

• **upside down** : reversed

• **backpacking** : traveling around an area without spending much money, often on foot and carrying a backpack

But maybe I'd rather go to Europe to see the Eiffel Tower and the Alps. I hear that Stonehenge and the Coliseum are wonderful! Backpacking[†] is supposed to be a cheap, safe, and easy way to get around. And it lets you meet lots of interesting people.

But, instead, probably my family will go back to the same place here in Korea that we usually visit.



What Does It Mean?

- (1) If I'm lucky I can even appear in one.
- (2) The Aussies speak English strangely.
- (3) The weather is upside down.



Comprehension

- (1) Does the speaker know where to go on the next vacation?
- (2) What would she do in Hawaii?
- (3) Where would she like to visit in California?
- (4) How does she think Australians talk?
- (5) What are the main tourist attractions in Europe, according to the speaker?
- (6) How would she probably travel in Europe?



- ① What do you usually do during your winter vacation? Summer?
- ② Would you rather vacation with your family or your friends?
- ③ Where would you most like to go on vacation? What would you like to do?
- ④ How does your family decide your vacation plans?
- ⑤ Should teenagers be allowed to go on vacations without their parents? Should they be able to do whatever they want?

Opinion Samples



(1) People work hard all year and deserve⁺ to have some time for themselves. They should plan their vacations very carefully and use the time to fulfill their dreams. Travel is a very enriching⁺ experience for most vacationers. They find out how other folks live, do things they can't do at home, see other kinds of landscapes and famous buildings. They can get memories that will last a lifetime. But most important of all, they can learn to better appreciate⁺ their own home.

(2) Vacations are over-rated—or at least the way most people spend them. After working hard all year, they spend all their money to make themselves exhausted⁺ during their vacation. Instead of taking a package tour of some exotic⁺ land, visiting five countries in six days and taking photographs of being in front of some famous place, why don't they just stay at home and relax? They could read that book they've always been curious about. They could work on a neglected⁺ hobby. They could spend some quality⁺ time with their family and make their relationships closer. Then when they went back to work they would feel energized⁺ and happy again.

→ **deserve** : have a right to (sth)

→ **enrich** : make (sth) better or more enjoyable

→ **appreciate** : recognize the worth, quality, or importance of (sb/sth); value highly

→ **exhausted** : very tired

→ **exotic** : strikingly unfamiliar or unusual

→ **neglect** : pay no or too little attention to

→ **quality** : having a high standard

→ **energize** : make (sb) feel full of energy or enthusiasm



(3) I wonder: if teenagers went on vacation by themselves, would they actually do anything differently than if they were with their parents? If they went to the seaside, wouldn't they still swim and play on the beach? If they went to the mountains, wouldn't they camp out and go on long hikes? If they visited foreign countries, I think that they would do most of the same things, see the same sights, eat the same foods, go to the same places. If kids went on vacations without their families, maybe the only thing different would be that they would get homesick⁴ sooner.

⁴-homesick : feeling sad and lonely due to being away from home

Read & Discuss

Before You Relax Under the Sun



It's that time of year again! School is out, the heat is on, and the sun is shining. It is tempting⁺ to throw caution to the wind⁺ and lay yourself out on a big beach blanket to soak up⁺ those golden rays. Summer fashions dictate⁺ that your skin be bronzed and glowing. Wrong! Tanning⁺ can be really dangerous if done without proper protection. Studies have shown that just one bad sunburn in your youth can double your lifetime risk of developing skin cancer. If you are fair-skinned,⁺ that risk is even greater. Don't make the mistake of thinking that because you are young you can ignore all the warnings about the sun. The damage you do now may come back to haunt⁺ you later. This is especially true since nobody needs to risk skin cancer to get a gorgeous glow.⁺ A sunscreen⁺ should be regarded as "must-have" equipment for all outdoor activities. To help you out, we've put together a summer protection kit of products and fashions just for teens. So get your tan from a bottle and enjoy the sun with a good thick coating of SPF⁺ 30 all over your body. You'll look great, you'll stay safe, and you won't ever have any sun-related regrets.⁺



1. What kind of essay does this appear to be? Why do you say so?
2. What summer outdoor activities do you most enjoy?

- **tempting** : having strong appeal; enticing → **throw caution to the wind**: be bold; be ready to take chances
- **soak up** : absorb completely
- **dictate** : tell (sb) exactly what to do or how to behave
- **tan** : become brown from exposure to the sun → **fair-skinned** : not being of a dark complexion
- **haunt** : distress repeatedly
- **glow** : brightness one's face or body seems to have because of health, pride, or happiness
- **sunscreen** : cream applied to one's skin to prevent or inhibit sunburn
- **SPF (sun protection factor)** : effectiveness in protecting the skin from ultraviolet radiation
- **regret** : feeling of sadness about (sth) that has happened

I Want to Be a Doctor

When I grow up I think I'd like to be a doctor. It must be a wonderful feeling to know that you help others feel better. Saving lives is certainly a very noble occupation. Physicians are always very highly regarded¹ in their community, and they also make a lot of money.

But of course it takes many years to finish college, and not everyone has good-enough grades to get into medical school. So maybe it would be better to be a lawyer. That way I could still

help people and also be able to make a comfortable living. And lawyers can easily go into politics and use the government to make things better for everyone.



Becoming a teacher, nurse, scientist, computer operator, pilot, or entrepreneur² also has good points. I wish I could make up my mind.³

¹ **highly regarded** : respected

² **entrepreneur** : one who organizes and operates a business enterprise, esp. dealing in some new service or product

³ **make up (one's) mind** : decide between alternatives; come to a definite decision or opinion

⁴ **nun** : woman who belongs to a religious order

⁵ **chauffeur** : (sb) whose job is to drive rich and important people around in a car

⁶ **secretary** : (sb) who works in an office typing letters, keeping records, answering telephone calls, arranging meetings etc.

⁷ **aptitude** : natural ability or skill

⁸ **status** : social or professional rank or position

⁹ **follow in (sb's) footsteps** : do the same work or achieve the same success as (sb) else before you

**What Does It Mean?**

- (1) good-enough grades to get into medical school
- (2) Lawyers can easily go into politics.

**Comprehension**

- (1) What are the good points about becoming a doctor?
- (2) What are the bad points?
- (3) Why might this person want to be a lawyer?
- (4) What other job options is he considering?

TEEN TALK!

- ① Rate the good and bad things about the following professions: fire fighter, police officer, soldier, priest (minister) or nun,* judge, chauffeur,* secretary,* businessman, politician, writer, musician.
- ② What is the most important consideration in choosing a job? Money? Aptitude?* Happiness? Status?* Self-satisfaction?
- ③ What would you like to become in the future?
- ④ What would your parents like you to do?
- ⑤ What occupations do your parents have?
- ⑥ Would you like to follow in your parents' footsteps* and have their job when you grow up?



Opinion Samples >>

(1) Picking a job may be the most important choice you ever make in life, except maybe for deciding on a mate.* But maybe the job you have will also determine* who you marry. You should be sure to select* a profession that will meet your basic financial* needs. You should also be careful to choose something with a good future—with technology changing so quickly all the time, you don't want to be without a reliable job skill when you are middle-aged. But you should also find something that will give you personal satisfaction, not only a good income.* Since you will do it all your life, you don't want to hate it.

(2) Probably very few people actually know, when they are young, what kind of job they will have. Much depends on circumstance,* opportunity, and luck. As we are exposed to more kinds of experience and as we take different classes in school, we find out more about our abilities and talents. We have to deal with a constantly changing job market. Sometimes we have to take the first job that's available,* even if it is not one of our first choices. But we don't have to do just one thing all our lives. Part of the fun of life is taking things as they come, trying out many different occupations,* learning new skills and trades. We can continue to grow as we age.* We don't have to be stuck* in the same rut* all the time.

-
- **mate** : husband or wife
 - **determine** : settle or decide (sth) firmly and conclusively
 - **select** : choose (sb/sth)
 - **financial** : involving money
 - **income** : money that (sb) gets from working
 - **circumstance** : condition or event
 - **available** : capable of being obtained
 - **occupation** : profession or job
 - **age** : become old
 - **stuck** : held in a position from which one cannot move
 - **rut** : situation that is boring and difficult to change

(3) In many traditional societies it is the usual pattern for sons to have the same occupations as their fathers, but in modern societies to do so is less common.⁴ However, it is still the case for some professions. For example, the children of doctors often go to medical school to study; teachers' kids teach; and those who inherit⁴ some special ability — such as musical or artistic talent — also often pursue their parents' livelihoods.⁴ But for the most part, people nowadays tend⁴ to have more opportunities⁴ to improve their condition in life or find some job they enjoy, and do not need to copy their folks' careers.

-
- **common** : used, done, or shared by two or more people
 - **inherit** : acquire characteristics by genetic transmission from one's forebears
 - **livelihood** : work that provides the money needed to live on
 - **tend** : be likely to do (sth)
 - **opportunity** : chance to do (sth)



Read & Discuss

Are You Intuitive?

What's your style — intuitive,⁴ logical, somewhere in-between?⁴ Philip Goldberg, author of *The Intuitive Edge*, developed this quiz to help you understand how you approach problems and decisions. Choose A or B for each question below.

1. When I don't have a ready answer, I tend to be :
A. patient B. uneasy
2. Basically I am :
A. an idealist B. a realist
3. When I am wrong, I
A. readily admit it B. defend myself
4. Unpredictable people are :
A. annoying B. interesting
5. When I have a hunch,⁴ I usually react with :
A. enthusiasm B. mistrust
6. Generally speaking, I :
A. prefer the safe way B. enjoy taking risks
7. When things get complicated, I am
A. exhilarated⁴ B. insecure⁴
8. In most cases, change makes me :
A. nervous B. excited
9. At work I prefer to :
A. follow a prearranged schedule B. make my own schedule



→ **intuitive** : based on feelings rather than on knowledge or facts
→ **in-between** : in the middle between two points
→ **hunch** : guess or feeling not based on known facts; suspicion
→ **exhilarated** : feeling extremely happy and excited
→ **insecure** : not sure or certain

10. I can usually be convinced by an appeal to :
A. reason B. emotion
11. I would rather be called :
A. imaginative B. practical
12. When something spoils my plans, I :
A. get upset B. make a new plan
13. I am best known as :
A. an idea person B. a detail person⁺
14. When I make a mistake, I tend to :
A. second-guess⁺ myself B. forget it and go on.

Answer A in questions 1,2,3,5,7,11,13 and answer B in 4,6,8,9,10,12,14 indicate an intuitive style.



1. Why do some people try to defend themselves even when they have definitely been proved wrong?
2. What are the main reasons you fail to carry out your plans?

⁺ **detail person** : (sb) who assures that the small steps necessary to achieve an objective are handled properly
⁺ **second-guess** : criticize (sb)

Happy New Year

Well, another year has come and gone. Yesterday I found the list of resolutions¹ I made last year. I promised myself I would try to obey my parents more, study harder, eat better, and take better care of my appearance. How well did I do?

I did TRY to obey my parents. But I wasn't able to succeed one hundred percent of the time. Many times I thought they just did not understand what's good for me or what I want to do. They can be so unreasonable² at times.³ And sometimes my mother and my father tell me to do opposite things! So it was impossible to win.

I did better on the other three things. I definitely⁴ studied harder, although my grades seem the same. But my diet and looks have improved, I think. And I'm not as shy as I was a year ago. So I am making good progress. What must I do this year to make my life better?



→ **resolution** : serious decision to do (sth)

→ **unreasonable** : not sensible

→ **at times** : on occasion; sometimes

→ **definitely** : without any doubt

→ **fulfill** : achieve (sth)

**What Does It Mean?**

- (1) I wasn't able to succeed one hundred percent.
- (2) I'm not as shy as I was a year ago.

**Comprehension**

- (1) When did she make the list? When did she discover it?
- (2) How many resolutions did she make? What were they?
- (3) If she were to give herself a grade on her resolutions, what score do you think she would get?
- (4) Which resolution did she have the hardest time with?

TEEN TALK!

- ① Do you remember any of resolutions you made on New Year's Day? What were they?
- ② Which one has been the easiest to keep? The hardest?
- ③ How well have you accomplished your goals?
- ④ Do you think you can perfectly fulfill⁴ your resolutions?
- ⑤ Did you make your list of resolutions on your own, or did your parents help you?
- ⑥ What changes in your behavior do you think are the most important this year?
- ⑦ Why do you think most people fail to keep their resolutions?



Opinion Samples >>

(1) Making New Year's resolutions is a big waste of time. It is just an idle exercise we go through,¹ without ever meaning to follow through² in any sincere way. Sometimes we just pick trivial tasks that mean nothing. Sometimes we choose very serious problems that are too big to solve casually.³ In either case, before very much time has passed—maybe even less than one day—we forget completely about our resolutions and go about our lives the same way we did before. So why bother?⁴

(2) It is a good idea periodically⁵ to take stock⁶ of ourselves. Sometimes we unconsciously pick up bad habits that we need to get rid of.⁷ Or maybe there are private goals we want to achieve—saving some money, finishing some task. If we take the time to analyze⁸ our real situation carefully, we might be surprised at how well we are already doing, just as we may discover how little we need to do to have an even better life. The two keys to success are being completely honest with ourselves and setting goals that we can get without too much trouble. If we demand too much from ourselves, we will get frustrated and quit. But next year, when we have solved these problems, we can take some other small steps and move a little closer towards perfection.

→ **go through** : experience (sth)

→ **follow through** : do what needs to be done to complete (sth) or make it successful

→ **casually** : without any clear aim or serious interest

→ **why bother?** : make an effort for what reason?

→ **periodically** : regularly

→ **take stock** : think carefully

→ **get rid of** : throw away

→ **analyze** : think about (sth) carefully

(3) On the first day of every year I make my list of resolutions. Before the week is out⁺ I usually break them all! But the fact that I do not keep them for long is beside the point.⁺ I make them to come to an understanding of my real nature, not to become like someone else. The exercise of taking stock of my foibles⁺ and imperfections is a virtue⁺ in its own right.⁺ Being able to overcome⁺ my faults would be a very valuable ability, but it is one I lack. On the other hand, false optimism⁺ is not in my character, so I know when I make my New Year resolutions that I won't keep them. And when, inevitably,⁺ I break them, I don't feel any self-guilt.

→ **out** : finished; ended

→ **beside the point** : not important

→ **foible** : minor personal fault or habit

→ **virtue** : advantage

→ **in one's own right** : by reason of one's own ability

→ **overcome** : conquer

→ **optimism** : tendency to take a hopeful view of a situation or to expect the best possible outcome

→ **inevitable** : impossible to avoid or prevent



Read & Discuss

New Year's Vows



- Let this coming year be better than any other.
- Promise to do some of the things you've always wanted to do but couldn't find the time for.
- Call a neglected¹ friend.
- Drop an old grudge,² and replace it with more pleasant memories.
- Share a funny story with someone whose spirits are dragging.³ A good laugh can be good medicine.⁴
- Vow not to make any promise you don't think you can keep.
- Pay off a debt — especially one that is not monetary.⁵
- Free yourself of⁶ envy and malice.⁷
- Encourage a young person to do his or her best.
- Share your experience and offer support. Young people need good role models,⁸ not bad peer pressure.
- Make a genuine effort to stay in close touch with family and good friends.
- Resolve⁹ to stop magnifying¹⁰ small problems and talking without thinking.
- Find the time to be kind and thoughtful. All of us have the same allotment,¹¹ 24 hours a day.
- Pay someone a compliment.¹² It might give a badly needed lift¹³ to a person who really needs it.
- Think things through.
- Forgive a grave¹⁴ injustice.
- Listen more.
- Be kind.
- Apologize when you discover you were wrong. An apology never diminishes¹⁵ a person. It elevates¹⁶ him.
- Don't blow your own horn.¹⁷ If you've done something praiseworthy, someone will notice eventually.

* **vow** : solemn promise, esp. to act in a specified way

* **neglect** : fail to take care of (sb/sth) that one is responsible

* **grudge** : persistent remembrance of an old grievance * **dragging** : feeling listless and exhausted

* **good medicine** : helpful in effecting a cure or relieving an illness

* **monetary** : relating to money * **free (sb) of (sth)** : remove (sth) unpleasant

* **malice** : desire to harm others or see others suffer

* **role model** : (sb) whose behavior is considered to be a good example for other people to copy

* **resolve** : make a firm decision to do (sth)

* **magnify** : make (sth) appear more important or larger than it really is * **allotment** : amount or share of (sth)

* **compliment** : expression of praise, admiration, or congratulation * **lift** : rising of the spirit

* **grave** : serious * **diminish** : deliberately make (sb/sth) seem less important or smaller

* **elevate** : improve the status or importance of (sb/sth)

* **blow (one's) own horn** : emphasize (one's) own achievements and successes to other people

- Try to understand a point of view different from your own. Nothing is 100 percent pure.
- Examine the demands you make on others.
- Lighten up. When you feel like blowing your top,¹ ask yourself, "Will it matter a week from today?"
- When the joke is on you, laugh the loudest.
- The surest way to have a friend is to be one. We are all connected by our humanity, and we need each other.
- Avoid malcontents² and pessimists. They will drag you down and contribute³ nothing of value.
- Don't discourage a beginner from trying something risky. Nothing ventured⁴ means nothing gained. Losing is not as bad as not trying.
- Be optimistic. The can-do spirit is the fuel that makes things go.
- Declare war against gossip,⁵ which only causes trouble.
- Give credit⁶ when it's due.⁷ People long⁸ to be appreciated.
- Read something uplifting.⁹ Then read it to a friend.
- Don't abandon your principles, no matter how old-fashioned they appear to others; they never go out of style.
- Whenever courage is needed, ask yourself, "If not me, then who? If not now, when?"
- Take better care of yourself. Remember, you're all you've got.
- Clean out your closet. Throw away the trash, give away the good stuff you don't need.
- Take those photos out of the drawer and put them in an album. Show your friends.
- If you see litter on the sidewalk, pick it up instead of walking over it.
- Give yourself a reality check.¹⁰ Phoniness¹¹ is always transparent.¹² It is also tiresome.¹³
- Take pleasure in the wonders of nature. Every flower is a miracle.



1. Which five of these resolutions do you think are most helpful?
2. Are any of these resolutions irrelevant¹⁴ to you?

-blow (one's) top : suddenly become very angry -malcontent : dissatisfied or rebellious person
 -contribute : add -venture : do (sth) that is risky
 -gossip : trivial talk, often involving rumors of people and their personal affairs
 -credit : approval or praise for some act or quality
 -due : fitting or appropriate -long : deeply desire
 -uplifting : (sth) that makes one feel happier or more hopeful
 -reality check : analysis of the true situation rather than an imagined (esp. hopeful) one
 -phony : not real, intended to trick people
 -transparent : easily seen through, recognized, or detected
 -tiresome : causing fatigue or boredom -irrelevant : having no relation to the matter being discussed



Who Are You?

Do you understand why you do the things you do? Basically, there are two kinds of personalities. Introspective¹ people are constantly examining their own motives and feelings, while extrospective² ones do better at understanding what makes other people operate.³ The former often become very gifted,⁴ expressive⁵ artists and writers, while the latter tend to gain success in sales or politics.



The "who" you are is a very important issue, since it defines your character. Are you lazy or a workaholic?⁶ Neither trait⁷ is particularly valuable, as one will probably doom⁸ you to low achievement and the other prevent you from ever enjoying yourself. Are you the type who always takes the lead in everything, or are you content to be a follower? The leader often feels frustrated,⁹ while the follower is probably mostly content; but the follower may also feel like a failure, and the leader probably has a lot of pride in his success.

The point is not that some traits are inherently¹⁰ better than others, but merely that they are different. They all have both positive and negative qualities. But, put them altogether and they define you as a person.

→ **introspective** : tending to think deeply about your own thoughts, feelings etc.

→ **extrospective** : considering things external to the self

→ **operate** : do a job or try to achieve things in a particular way

→ **gifted** : with an impressive natural ability

→ **expressive** : showing what (sb) thinks or feels

→ **workaholic** : (sb) who spends most of the time working and has little interest in other things

→ **trait** : particular quality in the character of (sb/sth)

→ **doom** : make (sb/sth) certain to fail, be destroyed, or die

→ **frustrated** : feeling annoyed and impatient from being prevented from achieving (sth)

→ **inherent** : being part of the basic nature of a person or thing; essential

**What Does It Mean?**

- (1) do better at understanding what makes other people operate
- (2) the "who" you are

**Comprehension**

1. Which is better, not working hard enough or working too hard?
2. What are the problems and rewards⁺ associated with⁺ not being a leader?

TEEN TALK!

- 1 How would you describe your looks?
- 2 What do you dislike most about your appearance?
What do you like most?

+ reward : (sth) given or received in return for a particular behavior

+ associated with : connected with (sth) in some way



More Talking Points

- (1) Describe your parents.
- (2) How old are your siblings?*
- (3) Do you get on with* your brothers/sisters?
- (4) Who is your oldest living relative?
- (5) Do you have a pet?
- (6) What would you most like to do?
- (7) What job are you most likely to get?
- (8) Do you have a "best" friend?
- (9) What are your friends like?
- (10) What is the ideal mate, in your eyes?
- (11) What do you look for in a friend? In a sweetheart?
- (12) Do you have any enemies?
- (13) Have you ever been in love? What were the circumstances?
- (14) Have you ever been out on a date? What happened on your first date?
- (15) Is it important to you to have a boy/girlfriend? Now, or later on?
- (16) What do you think makes you "love" someone? Looks? Personality? Brains?
- (17) If you had three wishes, what would they be?
- (18) Do you have any superstitions?† If so, name them.
- (19) Do you have an idol?‡ Who?

*sibling : brother or sister

*get on with : get along well

*superstition : belief that things such as magic or luck have the power to affect life

‡Idol : (sb) greatly admired

- (20) What is your idea of God?
- (21) Do you think girls are different from boys? If so, in what ways?
- (22) Would you describe yourself as happy or unhappy?
- (23) When you have a problem, is there someone you can talk to? Who?
- (24) If you had a lot of money, how would you spend it?
- (25) How would you describe your personality?
- (26) Do you want to go to college or get a job (or get married) when you graduate?
- (27) What is your attitude toward life?
- (28) What values do you have?
- (29) What do you think about people your age who smoke? Drink?
- (30) How will you contribute* to your community? Should you?

* **contribute** : be a part of a group or an activity and help it to be successful



Opinion Samples >>

(1) Young people want to find out the answer to life by themselves. It just doesn't mean anything unless they experience it first hand.⁺ Parents and older siblings might have very good advice for them, but they probably won't automatically listen to it. As a result, most teenagers smoke and drink, at least a little bit, sometimes, because they want to know what it's like; they may also engage in more serious kinds of "bad" behavior. It's all part of growing up and learning to stand on one's own two feet. But, even so, the consequences can be very serious indeed. Most life-long smokers and alcoholics start off⁺ before they are adults; many teens become addicted⁺ to drugs and never regain control over their own lives; many others become parents too soon or contract⁺ some serious sexually transmitted⁺ disease. Experience is not always good!

(2) I'd love to win the lottery! With my new-found wealth, I'd use half of it to make someone else's life better; maybe I could donate⁺ it to a scientist who could use it to discover a cure for AIDS. With the other half, I wish I could use it as bait⁺ to attract the most beautiful woman in the world to be my lover!

(3) Sometimes I feel like an introvert.⁺ I'm very quiet and reserved,⁺ and I like to listen to music and watch movies. But at other times I'm a real extrovert.⁺ When I'm excited, I just can't stop talking and making my friends laugh out loud. So, what am I?

→ **first hand** : directly → **start off** : begin

→ **addicted** : unable to stop an undesirable behavior

→ **contract** : acquire; become infected

→ **transmit** : spread from one person to another

→ **donate** : give money, goods or time for a worthwhile purpose

→ **bait** : (sth) used to attract or entice (sb)

→ **introvert** : (sb) who tends to concentrate on his own thoughts and feelings instead of communicating with other people

→ **reserved** : unwilling to express one's emotions or talk about one's problems

→ **extrovert** : (sb) who is not quiet or shy

Read & Discuss

Maturity

- Maturity is the ability to control anger and settle differences without violence or destruction.*
- Maturity is patience. It is the willingness to pass up* immediate pleasure in exchange for long-term gain.
- Maturity is perseverance,* the ability to sweat out* a project or a situation in spite of heavy opposition and discouraging setbacks.*
- Maturity is the capacity to face* unpleasantness and frustration,* discomfort and defeat, without complaint or collapse.*
- Maturity is humility.* It is being big enough to say, "I was wrong." And, when right, the mature person need not experience the satisfaction of saying, "I told you so."
- Maturity is the ability to make a decision and stand by* it. The immature spend their lives exploring endless possibilities, then do nothing.
- Maturity means dependability,* keeping one's word, coming through* in a crisis. The immature are masters of the alibi.* They are the confused and the disorganized. Their lives are a maze* of broken promises, former friends, unfinished business and good intentions that somehow never materialized.*



1. On the basis of these criteria,* how mature do you think you are? What areas need most improvement, in your case?
2. Can you think of any other characteristics of being mature?

- **maturity** : quality of behaving in a sensible way and like an adult → **destruction** : severe damage
 → **pass up** : let (sth) go → **perseverance** : determination to achieve (sth) in spite of difficulties
 → **sweat out** : continue (sth) until it is finished, even though it is difficult
 → **setback** : (sth) that delays or prevents progress, or makes things worse than they were
 → **face** : meet or deal with (sb/sth) boldly or bravely
 → **frustration** : annoyed or impatient feeling from being prevented from doing (sth)
 → **collapse** : sudden, complete failure; breakdown
 → **humility** : quality of not being too proud about oneself; modesty
 → **stand by** : continue to support (sth) → **dependability** : reliability
 → **come through** : work or make progress after a difficult or dangerous experience → **alibi** : excuse
 → **maze** : any arrangement that causes bewilderment, confusion, or perplexity
 → **materialize** : happen or appear in the way that was planned or expected
 → **criteria** : standards for judging (sth) or making a decision about (sth)

If I Were....

If I were the President, I would work to bring peace and justice to my country. I would clamp down⁺ on corruption⁺ and make sure that everyone obeyed⁺ the law. Even if something was not in my own best interest politically, I would do it if it was the best thing for the people.

If I were a billionaire, I would use part of my money to take care of my family, but I would use most of it to help other people. Education, poverty, the environment, physical handicaps,⁺ diseases...these are all problems that I would devote⁺ my wealth to find solutions for or improvements to. Succeeding in any one of these areas, or even making them a little better, would be worth more than any amount of money.

If I were genuinely honest with myself, I guess that I would admit that if I had a great deal of power or money, I'd probably use it as selfishly as most other people....



- **clamp down** : become more strict; impose controls
- **corruption** : dishonesty or improper behavior, esp. by a person in a position of authority
- **obey** : comply with (a request, an order, or a law)
- **handicap** : physical or mental disability
- **devote** : apply (sth) to a particular purpose

**What Does It Mean?**

- (1) if something was not in my own best interests politically,
- (2) I'd probably use it as selfishly as most other people....

**Comprehension**

- (1) What are the two most important general principles that the president of a country should pursue?¹
- (2) If the speaker had to choose between doing the right thing and preserving² her own political opportunity, which would she choose?
- (3) How many causes³ would she actively support if she had a lot of money? What are they?
- (4) What is more valuable, improving the world or having wealth?

- **pursue** : try to gain or accomplish (sth)

- **preserve** : maintain (sth) in safety; protect

- **cause** : idea or goal to which many people are dedicated



- 1 What would you do if you were:
 - (a) a teacher or principal?^a
 - (b) a scientist?
 - (c) a judge?
 - (d) an author?
 - (e) a movie star or singer?
 - (f) God?
- 2 Who do you think are the five greatest people in history?
(They don't have to be famous....)
- 3 Would you like to be famous? Why or why not?
- 4 Do you think fame makes people happy?
- 5 Which is better, money or fame?^a

^a-principal : head of a school below the college level
^a-fame : public esteem or renown

Opinion Samples



(1) It is a waste of time trying to predict⁺ what we will do in certain circumstances. It's fun to daydream,⁺ but in fact we just never know what we will do. The real situation is never as clear or definite⁺ as the imaginary one. And besides, few of us really understand ourselves well enough to describe our own behavior; we tend to believe that we are smarter or more honest or more generous than we actually are.

(2) "If I were..." is actually a very useful pastime.⁺ For one thing, we can never have our dreams come true if we don't have any dreams. Athletes insist that they are able to hit the ball or throw it or run faster than their opponents because they first visualize⁺ doing it; the more completely they can imagine it, the better they are at doing it. For another thing, when we do reach our goals, we will have an agenda⁺ to follow if we have thought about what we would do. That way we will know in advance how to behave.

(3) If I had to choose between being rich or being famous I don't know which I would prefer. Both have their own advantages. With money, one could travel, live a long comfortable life, indulge⁺ one's hobbies, and support all kinds of good causes. But if famous, one could be a role model for others, be always at the center of admiration, be considered one of "the beautiful people" (as celebrities are sometimes called), and be remembered long after death. But why do I have to choose? Aren't famous people usually rich?

-
- **predict** : tell about (sth) in advance; foretell
 - **daydream** : waste time thinking about (sth) pleasant
 - **definite** : clearly defined
 - **pastime** : (sth) that you do regularly for fun in your free time
 - **visualize** : form a picture of (sb/sth) in one's mind
 - **agenda** : things that need to be done or dealt with
 - **indulge** : yield to (desires, etc.)



Read & Discuss

The Crush

I have a big crush on this guy a grade higher than mine. We don't have any classes together, but we are both in the band and on the school paper. I know I love him because I just can't get him out of my mind. At a party I confessed¹ to him my true feelings, and he told me he liked me too—as a friend. He said he just wanted us to be friends right now. I really, really want to be with him. how do I make him love me? — Worrier



Dear Worrier:

You are suffering from a killer² one-sided crush, also known as “unrequited love,”³ and there really isn't much you can do to change it into the kind of relationship you want. I'll be blunt.⁴ You cannot MAKE somebody love you. You can't even make them like you. There are no magic spells⁵ or secret potions that will make a person suddenly feel for you the way you feel for him or her. Love, when it is real and returned,⁶ is one of the most amazing feelings you will ever experience. Although it is hard to accept that this person doesn't return your feelings, it may help you to know that the pain you now feel will be erased⁷ from your heart when you find someone who truly loves you back.

Since he has made his feelings for you clear, namely⁸ that he wants to be friends, you really have only one choice. You have to honor his feelings and wishes. You do however have options as to exactly how you handle the situation. You can swallow⁹ your feelings, move on and work on being a

- **crush** : strong, often foolish and brief liking for (sb)
- **confess** : state openly
- **killer** : (sth) that is extremely difficult to deal with or withstand
- **unrequited love** : romantic love that is not returned
- **blunt** : speaking in a frank, honest way
- **spell** : word or group of words believed to have magic power
- **return** : give back
- **erase** : get rid of
- **namely** : that is to say; specifically
- **swallow** : keep from expressing (sth)

good friend with this guy, or you can harbor⁴ your private feelings and hope that the future will turn your friendship into romance. Either way, the one thing you should do is actively take him up on⁴ his offer of friendship in spite of your deeper feelings. Take heart,⁴ all is not lost! Friendship is always a good place to start—and “just friendship” in and of itself⁴ is always a good thing as well. Right now he only knows a “one-dimensional”⁴ you, but as your friendship progresses he will come to see your many sides. He may want to start as friends because he doesn't know you well enough to have any deeper feelings, or he may be using the “friendship line” as a brush off.⁴ You can't be certain which of these is true until you make a go of⁴ the situation. Work from the premise⁴ that he really wants a friendship with you, until he indicates otherwise.



1. Does the boy like the girl? In what role?
2. What are the girl's options? Are there any other options not discussed?

- **harbor** : keep thoughts, fears, or hopes in one's mind for a long time
- **take (sb) up on (sth)** : accept an offer that (sb) has made
- **take heart** : feel encouraged or have more hope
- **in and of itself** : considered without other related ideas or situations
- **one dimensional** : not showing all the parts of (sth)
- **brush off** : clear sign of not being interested in (sb)
- **make a go of (sth)** : try one's best to make (sth) successful
- **premise** : statement or idea that one accepts as true and uses as a base for developing other ideas

I Want to Make Many Friends



Having friends is more important than having good grades. If someone is popular he will always do well in life. He will know who to go to for a job or advice, and he will be sure to get the help he needs. Because friends take care of friends. But if someone is only smart, he will always have to take care of his problems by himself.

I don't think we should only associate with⁺ people who are just like ourselves. We can find out an awful lot about life if we deliberately⁺ cultivate⁺ friendships with people from other income levels and other places. Having foreign friends is especially valuable in this regard,⁺ since they see the world very differently than we do. Reaching understanding among ourselves is what it means to make friends.

→ **associate with (sb)** : spend time with (sb)

→ **deliberately** : with a definite intention, not by chance or by accident; intentionally

→ **cultivate** : develop a relationship with (sb)

→ **in this regard** : concerning what has just been mentioned

**What Does It Mean?**

- (1) I don't think we should only associate with people who are just like ourselves.
- (2) Reaching understanding among ourselves is what it means to make friends.

**Comprehension**

- (1) What is better than doing well in school? Why?
- (2) What are friends supposed to do for each other?
- (3) Is it better to stay with people like ourselves or with people who are different?
- (4) How do we make friends?

TEEN TALK!

- ① Who is your best friend? What do you do together? How did you meet or become acquainted?⁴
- ② Has any friend ever helped you in some important way? How?
- ③ Have you ever done a big favor⁴ for one of your friends?
- ④ What do you think the ideal date would be like?
- ⑤ Do you have any foreign friends or pen pals? What is the most interesting thing about them?

⁴become acquainted : start to know (sb)

⁴favor : (sth) that is done to help (sb)



Opinion Samples >>

(1) Friendship is not a premeditated⁺ act. We don't just decide that someone would make a useful friend to us and then "make friends" with him. We become friends because we share interests or enjoy being in each other's company.⁺ We don't have friends because of what they can do for us but because of what we share with each other.

(2) Dating is another bad custom⁺ we have gotten from the West. It used to be that young men and women got married without any former experience, grew to love each other, learned to live with the differences between them, and had happy, life-long marriages. But now too many people are looking for perfection in their relationships and are never satisfied with the partners they actually have. They think that if only they audition⁺ enough people, somehow they will find "the one" who is perfect for them. But "the one and only" just does not exist—we all have good and bad qualities.⁺ We must learn to live with imperfection in order to be content⁺ with what we have.

⁺ **premeditated** : considered or planned in advance

⁺ **company** : companionship; association

⁺ **custom** : usual way of acting

⁺ **audition** : meet and judge

⁺ **quality** : personal trait, esp. a feature typical of one's character

⁺ **content** : wanting no more than one has; satisfied

(3) Variety is the spice of life.⁴ Why should we only eat kimchi with every meal? Every food has its own flavor,⁴ and we are only cheating ourselves if we don't sample as many delicacies⁴ as we can. The same thing is even more true with people. Everyone is unique, so we should try to learn whatever we can about all of humanity. Dating is a particularly fun way to learn how other people think and do things, and also to teach them what makes us tick.⁴ Open your minds and your hearts to as many other people as you can!

→ **variety is the spice of life** : different experiences and situations make life enjoyable or interesting

→ **flavor** : distinctive taste of (sth)

→ **delicacy** : food that is considered delicious but is difficult to find

→ **what makes (sb) tick** : what makes (sb) behave in a certain way



Read & Discuss

Breakups

More often than not,⁺ breaking up is as hard on the person ending the relationship as it is on the person being broken up with; don't assume just because a person is breaking up with you means that that person no longer cares about you, but caring about you and wanting a relationship with you are not the same thing. Being broken up with does not mean that there is something wrong with you; it just means that there is something that is not working⁺ in the relationship. Try not to take the rejection⁺ too personally. Remember that lots of happy people have had failed relationships; the fact that the relationships failed says nothing about their value as a person.

Breaking up is never easy. You will have good days and you will have bad days. Take it one day at a time and don't beat yourself up⁺ if you have an overly⁺ emotional day—you're only human after all. It is all right to cry, get mad and feel hurt when you are dumped.⁺ These are normal, natural feelings. Just be sure that you let your feelings out in a safe place, among friends or family. Do not make your ex⁺ the target of your feelings, even if he or she did something to deserve⁺ your outrage.⁺ The sooner you let go of⁺ the other person, the sooner the healing⁺ can begin.

Acting out⁺ in anger is never good for anybody. Don't spread mean⁺ or spiteful⁺ rumors⁺ about the one who broke up with you. Don't betray⁺ former

- **breakup** : end of a serious relationship
- **more often than not** : on most occasions or in most situations
- **working** : having the desired effect or result
- **rejection** : feeling of not being loved or wanted by (sb)
- **beat (sb) up** : blame or criticize (sb)
- **overly** : excessively
- **dumped** : rejected
- **ex** : person that (sb) used to have a romantic relationship with
- **deserve** : be worthy of (sth)
- **outrage** : great anger
- **let go of** : stop holding (sb/sth)
- **healing** : getting better after being sick or unhappy
- **act out** : express one's feelings about (sth) through behavior or actions, esp. feeling angry or nervous
- **mean** : cruel; hurtful
- **spiteful** : deliberately nasty to (sb) in order to hurt or upset that person
- **rumor** : story or report that is often repeated but may not be true
- **betray** : be unfaithful or disloyal to

confidences by telling secrets to others. If another person was involved in your breakup, resist the urge¹ to slam² him or her behind the back.³ Acting vicious⁴ only makes you look bad, and any satisfaction you may feel will be short lived. In the end, this sort of behavior will only make you feel worse.

Nobody ever deserves to be hurt. Your ex does not deserve to be hurt because you are hurting. Your ex's new love interest (if there is one) does not deserve to be hurt just because you feel jealous.⁵ You do not deserve to be hurt, even if you acted badly and caused the break up. Breaking up hurts, but it doesn't have to be made worse by holding a grudge or drowning⁶ yourself in a pool of "if only"s. Deal with reality and let go of your anger; the pain will disappear more quickly if you do.

Things may seem bleak⁷ now but you never know what the future may hold.⁸ You and your ex may get back together someday. You may not. Either way, it is better to let go of a faltering⁹ relationship while there is still some caring left between the two of you. If you play it out to the end¹⁰ and leave your ex no choice but to hate you to get rid of you, you close the door to the future. Bowing out¹¹ graciously¹² leaves room¹³ for a future relationship, even if only as good friends.



1. Is there ever a time when someone deserves to be hurt?
2. Have you ever dumped a sweetheart or been dumped by one? What happened? How did you feel?

- **urge** : instinctive drive
- **slam** : criticize (sb/sth) strongly
- **behind the back** : in one's absence; without one's knowledge
- **vicious** : intended to hurt (sb's) feelings
- **jealous** : envious of (sb's) possession, esp. emotionally, of (sb/sth) you desire
- **drown** : lose (oneself) deeply
- **bleak** : without hope or encouragement
- **what the future may hold** : what is likely to happen in the future
- **faltering** : nervous and uncertain or unsteady
- **play it out to the end** : continue relentlessly to the finish
- **bow out** : withdraw by choice
- **gracious** : showing kindness and good manners
- **room** : possibility for (sth) to exist or happen

My Family

My mother and my father are ordinary people, like anyone else. They have faults⁺ of their own. But to me they are special people. I count on⁺ them to do whatever they can whenever I need them. They take care of me when I'm sick. They help me with my homework, even if they don't always know how to do it. I guess I look like my mother more than my father. But I think my personality is more like Dad's.

But my brother! He always has to be the center of attention. Anytime something goes wrong, he insists that it is my fault.⁺ He never does his share of the work, but he never wants me to get any of the credit⁺ for what I do. He spends most of the time criticizing⁺ me or arguing⁺ with me, and the rest of the time he just ignores⁺ me — as though I'm not even there. But, every so often, when I least expect it, he does something really sweet to me. So I guess, deep down,⁺ I love my brother too.



-
- + **fault** : imperfection
 - + **count on** : depend on (sb)
 - + **fault** : responsibility for a mistake
 - + **credit** : approval or praise for some act or quality
 - + **criticize** : express disapproval of or find fault with (sb/sth)
 - + **argue** : disagree or quarrel; dispute
 - + **ignore** : pay no attention to (sb/sth); disregard
 - + **deep down** : genuine attitude or feeling, even if not always obvious

**What Does It Mean?**

- (1) They have faults of their own.
- (2) He always has to be the center of attention.
- (3) He never wants me to get any of the credit for what I do.

**Comprehension**

- (1) Why does she love her parents?
- (2) Are they perfect?
- (3) Who does she resemble?
- (4) List three things wrong with her brother.
- (5) But how does she really feel about her brother?



- ① Should parents help their children with their homework?
- ② What is the most loving thing your parents ever did for you?
- ③ How many brothers or sisters do you have? How well do you get along?
- ④ How do you show your love and appreciation to the rest of your family?
- ⑤ Does money make any difference in making families happier?
- ⑥ Do you think that adopted children can feel as close to their families as those who are related by blood?



Opinion Samples



(1) Little things can make a big difference. I owe⁺ my parents a lot of love and devotion⁺ and know I can never fully repay them. But every day I can try to show them how much they mean⁺ to me. I listen to their advice, even when I think they are wrong. I clean up after myself whenever I leave a mess,⁺ even without being asked. If I see some small gift that I think Mom or Dad would like I get it, even if it is not a birthday or other special occasion. I also buy presents for my little brother and help him with his homework; we also play together a lot. I try not to argue with him, but sometimes it's hard to put up with⁺ his bad behavior.

(2) Families may take many forms, but they exist in every human society. Some families may be very extended⁺ across several households and three or four generations. Some are nuclear,⁺ consisting only of⁺ the parents and the young children. Some are fragmentary,⁺ such as single-parent families. Some of them are even combinations of several former families. But, through it all, no matter what the family looks like, it survives because it is the institution⁺ that teaches us all how to be human beings.

→ **owe** : be obligated to pay, repay, or give (sth)

→ **devotion** : strong affection and dedication, as to a person

→ **mean** : be important

→ **mess** : situation in which a place is dirty or not neat

→ **put up with** : endure (sb/sth) without complaint

→ **extended family** : family group that includes not only parents and children but also grandparents, aunts, uncles etc.

→ **nuclear family** : family unit that consists only of husband, wife, and children

→ **consist of** : be made of

→ **fragmentary** : incomplete

→ **institution** : social organization

(3) The traditional family is on the way out.⁴ The pressures of modern life are too strong for it to survive. More and more mothers are working, so no one is home long enough to take good care of the children. At the same time, since the husband and wife are both gone, and tired when they come back home, they aren't as close to each other as they should be, so divorces⁴ are becoming more numerous.⁴ And the children, who feel neglected and unloved, also have too much money, now that both parents have jobs, so they spend their free time looking for that thrill⁴ they can't find at home, and too often do things they know they shouldn't be doing. But their friends are doing it too, and they want to be part of the group.

→ **on the way out** : no longer successful, popular, or effective

→ **divorce** : legal way of ending a marriage

→ **numerous** : very many

→ **thrill** : sudden feeling of being very excited and pleased



Read & Discuss

Family Values

I suppose we all take our family for granted.¹ We all have some ideal conception of what a “family” is, and we probably feel let down² because our own family seems dysfunctional³ in comparison.⁴

But actually, even though the “family” is a universal⁵ among humans, it takes many forms. In some societies, the familial structure is that of joint care: every adult is equally responsible for raising the youngsters, and little or no distinction is made on the basis of genetic inheritance.⁶ Some families are really clans,⁷ in which most of the people within a given group are closely related to one another through marriage and blood.

Many times in history, the actual parents have had very little to do with their own children, especially among the privileged⁸ classes. In these circumstances, babies are taken care of by wet nurses⁹ and nannies,¹⁰ the older children are educated away from home or by a live-in tutor¹¹ and are rarely seen by their mother and father. On special occasions, the children might be brought out on display, but then quickly returned to their separate quarters,¹² away from the adults. Nevertheless, even under these circumstances, the family represents¹³ a strong human bond.

The destruction of permanent marriage status in modern society has wreaked havoc¹⁴ with traditional family norms. What was once a rather rare situation

- **take (sth) for granted** : expect (sth) always to happen or exist in a particular way
- **let down** : disappointed
- **dysfunctional** : not working normally
- **in comparison** : judging relatively
- **universal** : idea or feature that exists everywhere
- **inheritance** : (sth) that one receives from one's parents
- **clan** : group of families claiming a common ancestor
- **privileged** : having advantages and opportunities that other people do not have because of wealth or high social status
- **wet nurse** : woman who is paid to feed another woman's baby with her own breast milk
- **nanny** : woman who is paid to take care of (sb) else's children
- **tutor** : (sb) who gives private lessons
- **quarter** : section of town
- **represent** : be a picture or image of (sth)
- **wreak havoc** : cause very great harm or damage



has become commonplace: ⁺ parents are not only absent but virtually ⁺ non-existent. A child may live with one biological parent (a mother, usually) and not the other at all, or perhaps with a string of ⁺ paternal or maternal substitutes. Some families exist on the basis of “yours, mine, and ours”; the mother and father have both been married before and each has children to care for independently of the other, but they also beget ⁺ children together.

When adoption ⁺ is added to the mix—people voluntarily ⁺ accepting into their own families children who are not related to them at all—we have a very confusing picture of modern family life. Nevertheless, the family itself continues to exist, even as its definition undergoes ⁺ radical ⁺ change.



1. Are there societies without families?
2. Describe as many kinds of families as you can.

- **commonplace** : usual
- **virtually** : almost completely
- **a string of** : a sequence of
- **beget** : become the parent of a child; create biologically
- **adoption** : of making a child legally part of a family other than its own parents'
- **voluntary** : performed through or by one's will or one's own free choice
- **undergo** : experience a process of change
- **radical** : thorough and complete

My Things Are My Own

I collect stamps because I like doing it. Collecting them is educational because I find out all sorts of things about the people and things on the stamps and the countries they come from. It can also be a profitable^a hobby, since sometimes the value of stamps goes up astronomically.^b But these reasons are really just rationalizations.^c I don't collect stamps for intellectual or monetary purposes, I do it for fun!



The same thing is true for the books I choose to read, the TV shows and movies I watch, the video games I play, the sports I participate in, even the friends I hang around with.^d No one else has to approve^e of what I do.

Someone else may even think that my choices are silly.^f But they are part of me because they are mine. They define^g my personality and are the essence^h of my being. What I am is what I do!

- **profitable** : producing a profit; money-making
- **astronomical** : too large to be easily imagined; immense; huge
- **rationalize** : invent a reasonable but false explanation for one's behavior or attitudes
- **hang around with** : spend time with (sb)
- **approve** : think that (sb/sth) is good or acceptable
- **silly** : showing lack of good sense or reason; stupid
- **define** : describe clearly and exactly what (sth) is
- **essence** : the most important part of (sth), usually the part that gives it its special character

**What Does It Mean?**

- (1) It can also be a profitable hobby.
- (2) These reasons are really just rationalizations.

**Comprehension**

- (1) What hobby does this person have?
- (2) What are the two reasons given for why he collects stamps? Are these the real reasons?
- (3) Why does he do the various things he does?



- 1 Have you ever been a collector? Describe your collection.
- 2 What hobbies do you have? Why do you enjoy them? How much do you spend on them?
- 3 What does your family think about your hobbies?
- 4 What are your five favorite books?
- 5 What sports do you play? Are you very good at them?
- 6 What is the most unusual thing you like to do?
- 7 Talk about the hobbies your family members enjoy.



Opinion Samples >>

(1) Collecting things, no matter what they are, is a foolish form of materialism.^a We want them just because they exist, not because they have any useful function. Stamps are used to pay for sending mail, but people who collect them are just wasting their money. Soon they have hundreds, maybe thousands, of useless stamps that they have to sort and save. And they need to buy albums to put them in, and they need special little clear "envelopes" to mount^b them. And then they start spending extravagant^c amounts of money to buy the rare ones they need to complete their collections. But no collection is ever complete, so the hobby just continues to spiral^d out of control.^e All of that time and money could be used to better purpose.

(2) Man is a restless,^f curious animal who needs to occupy^g himself with what may seemingly^h be useless activities. But that is just the way he is. People who pursue hobbies or activities that have no intrinsicⁱ value can't help themselves. They do it because they have excess^j time and energy, but something about it is attractive to their personality. Certainly people without any special interests tend to be boring indeed. But sometimes these hobbies develop into very important social institutions. Many libraries and museums have evolved^k out of private collections of books, art and other items. Many scientists have collected leaves or butterflies or other things for the purpose of intense study, and then used this information to help the rest of us.

(3) I don't understand why my mom doesn't approve of my hobby. It keeps me in good shape, it doesn't cost much money, it gives me a lot of confidence, and I think it will help me endure whatever hardships^l I might face in later life. I know it's only a hobby, but if I keep at it^m and get good enough, maybe it could make me rich and famous. But even if that never happens, it is a good outletⁿ for my stress and worries. Let other girls spend their time learning to dance and put makeup on. As for me, I only love to box.^o

→ **materialism** : belief that money and possessions are the most important aspects of human existence

→ **mount** : set (sth) → **extravagant** : tending to spend money lavishly or inappropriately

→ **spiral** : move vertically in a circular manner → **out of control** : no longer manageable

→ **restless** : unable to rest, relax, or be still → **occupy** : busy (oneself)

→ **seemingly** : in a way that seems to be true but may not be → **intrinsic** : relating to the basic nature of a thing

→ **excess** : amount or quantity that is more than what is needed → **evolve** : develop gradually

→ **hardship** : cause of suffering or difficulty → **keep at it** : continue doing (sth)

→ **outlet** : way of expressing strong feelings that would normally not be expressed

→ **box** : fight with one's fists

Read & Discuss

The Victor

If you think you are beaten, you are.
 If you think you dare not, you don't.
 If you like to win but think you can't,
 It's a cinch¹ you won't.
 If you think you'll lose, you're already lost.
 For out in the world we find
 Success begins with a fellow's will.
 It's all in the state of mind.
 If you think you are outclassed,² you are.
 You've got to think high to rise.
 You've got to be sure of yourself before
 You can ever win a prize.
 Life's battles don't always go
 To the stronger or faster man.
 But soon or late, the man who wins
 Is the man who thinks he can.



1. According to the poem, what is the most important component³ of success?
2. Even though people know the recipe for success, why do many of them fail?

→ **cinch** : (sth) that is very easy to do
 → **outclass** : be much better than (sb/sth) else
 → **component** : basic or fundamental part from which (sth) is made



Globe Trotting

I want to take a trip around the world. It would not be cheap, but I know I can do it in just a few years if I carefully save my money. You can buy a one-way airplane ticket from here back to here relatively inexpensively, and you can live abroad* on hardly* any money if you're careful. And everything needs to be scheduled ahead of time. But the excitement of doing this would be worth all the time and trouble it takes!



Can you imagine seeing the Great Wall of China, the pyramids of Egypt, the Louvre, the Kremlin, the Statue of Liberty, and the Golden Gate Bridge? Going to the Amazon rain forest and the Sahara desert?† Talking to people in a dozen different languages, and eating hundreds of different foods? Seeing what life is like for the Australian aborigines* and the Eskimos of Greenland? How wonderful it would be to tell my friends all the strange and exciting things I had witnessed.* Maybe I could even write a book about it! Just imagine.

*abroad : in a foreign country

*hardly : barely

*desert : dry region, often covered with sand and with little or no vegetation

*aborigine : member of a group of people, usually primitive, who are the first known to have lived in a region

*witness : see (sth) happen, for example a crime or an accident

**What Does It Mean?**

- (1) You can live abroad on hardly any money if you're careful.
- (2) The excitement of doing this would be worth all the time and trouble it took!

**Comprehension**

- (1) Why does she want to travel around the world?
- (2) Does she think a trip like that is possible? Easy?
- (3) What does she want to see? Where does she want to go?



- ① Where have you traveled within your own country? Do you like most going to the mountains, the beach, the rural¹ areas, or other cities?
- ② Have you ever been out of this country? Where? How long? How old were you?
- ③ What city would you most like to visit? What do you expect to see or do there?
- ④ Why do people want to travel? What purpose does it serve?²
- ⑤ Do you have friends who have traveled widely? Do you like to talk to them about their experiences?

→ **rural** : relating to parts of a country that are not near cities; having to do with the countryside

→ **serve** : help achieve (sth)



Opinion Samples >>

(1) People used to travel because they had to. Many times this was because of business. So for example, Marco Polo of Italy went to China when Kublai Khan was the ruler, not to have an exciting adventure but to make a living. But today travel is very expensive and time-consuming,¹ and most business can be done more effectively through the computer, the telephone, the facsimile, and so forth. So the business trip may be becoming a thing of the past. Sometimes people traveled to get things that were unavailable² where they lived. But now we can buy almost anything we want, cheaply and conveniently in our own neighborhood. We can also visit anywhere in books or on television, and have a better idea of what those places are like than by actually being there, since the information is in our own language and it isn't cluttered up³ with a lot of irrelevant⁴ material—we can find out exactly what we want to know right away. Other people have traveled because they were forced out of their homes by war or natural calamities.⁵ Maybe soon this will be the only reason, and being called a "world-traveler" will be an indication⁶ of low status.⁷

→ **consume** : use a supply of (sth) such as time, energy, or fuel

→ **unavailable** : impossible to obtain

→ **clutter up** : put too many things in a place so that it looks messy

→ **irrelevant** : not useful in or not relating to a particular situation, and therefore not important

→ **calamity** : terrible and unexpected event that causes a lot of damage or suffering

→ **indication** : sign

→ **status** : social or professional rank or position

(2) As travel becomes increasingly unnecessary, it may become even more valuable. Today, traveling business people have to spend most of their time inside their hotels talking to other business people on company matters and have little or no opportunity to see how other people live. But if business trips decline,⁺ more people will travel just to be traveling—to discover the world. Travel expands⁺ our understanding of the possibilities of life. Seeing how other people do everyday things so very differently than the ways we take for granted can teach us a lot about ourselves. Travel can open our eyes and our minds more than any other thing we can do. So if we travel without having to, we would do so entirely⁺ out of a sense of adventure⁺ and curiosity,⁺ and get much more out of it than merely because we “have to.”

-**decline** : become less; diminish

-**expand** : make (sth) become larger

-**entirely** : completely, or in every way

-**adventure** : excitement, danger, or discovery that comes from travel or new experience

-**curiosity** : desire to know or learn



Read & Discuss

Koreans on the Go

Not long ago, very few Koreans had ever been out of their own homeland. Not many were given passports¹ by their government, and they had very tight limits on how much money they could take out of the country.

Then, almost overnight,² the situation changed radically. For the most part, Koreans could go anywhere they wanted to and do whatever they liked while there. Today, Korea is a nation of tourists. The travel industry is flourishing.³ Many young people regularly go backpacking in Europe or Australia. Students go abroad to get degrees.⁴ Honeymooners get acquainted with⁵ each other in Thailand or Bali instead of just on Jeju. Retired⁶ people visit the places in Europe and the US that they had always wanted to see but couldn't. Housewives organize group shopping tours. Business people are constantly traveling around the globe in search of⁷ opportunities; foreign branch offices and factories are becoming an increasingly important part of the nation's economy.

With this explosion⁸ of Korean travel, foreign entrepreneurs are taking advantage of⁹ the situation by setting up special restaurants, accommodations,¹⁰ tours, and so on that cater¹¹ specifically¹² to Korean tastes. Almost anywhere in the world, Koreans on the move¹³ can feel comfortably "at home." And yet, one can't help but wonder whether this is actually

- **passport** : official document that identifies a person as a citizen of a country and permits travel outside that country
- **overnight** : very quickly; suddenly
- **flourish** : do well; prosper
- **degree** : academic title awarded by a school for completing a required course of study
- **get acquainted with (sb)** : know (sb)
- **retired** : no longer working because of old age or financial success
- **in search of** : looking for
- **explosion** : very large increase in the size, amount, or importance of (sth) over a very short period of time
- **take advantage of (sth)** : use a situation or opportunity to get what one wants
- **accommodations** : room and board; lodging
- **cater to** : treat (sb/sth) with special consideration
- **specifically** : for one particular thing or type of thing
- **on the move** : traveling from place to place

defeating⁴ the main purpose of travel. If the exotic⁵ is being displaced by the ordinary, if the whole planet is becoming homogenized,⁶ then how can we broaden⁷ our perspective?⁸ If everywhere is the same as the place I'm from, why bother going there — it's cheaper and more convenient just to stay where I am.



1. How was Koreans' travel formerly⁹ restricted?¹⁰
2. What is the paradox¹¹ of the new tourism industry?

→ **defeat** : prevent (sth) from happening or being successful

→ **exotic** : strikingly unfamiliar or unusual

→ **homogenized** : uniform

→ **broaden** : make wider

→ **perspective** : mental outlook

→ **formerly** : in the past

→ **restricted** : controlled tightly

→ **paradox** : situation that involves two ideas or qualities that seem to be opposite or incompatible

Murphy's Law

I don't know who Murphy was, but everybody knows his law: Whatever can go wrong, will! It never fails. Physicists can fudge⁺ Newton's laws, they can fiddle⁺ with laws by Boyle and Mendel. But nobody can get anything past that Murphy!

Just look at the various astronaut accidents. The crews and flight controllers practice for every eventuality⁺ over and over again. All of the systems are doubly and triply redundant,⁺ so if something fails there's a backup⁺ to the backup! Unless the weather and all other conditions are absolutely perfect, the shuttle won't even take off, even if the scheduled liftoff⁺ is only seconds away. And yet, despite all of these precautions, every few years something terrible happens. It's because of the inexorable⁺ nature of Murphy's Law. Whatever can go wrong, will.

It's too bad that there isn't a corollary⁺ like "Whatever can go right, will." Sometimes we get lucky and something nice happens to us by chance, but it's a hit-or-miss⁺ type of event. There are lots of really good "right" things that I've dreamed about my whole life, but not very many of them have actually happened. But I'm sure that I've suffered from all of the bad consequences of my carelessness or of just being in the wrong place at the wrong time.

Whatever can go wrong, will. And, always, at the worst possible time.



- fudge : change the details of (sth) -fiddle : change (sth) many times in order to improve it or make it work better
- eventuality : (sth) that might happen, esp. (sth) bad that people may have to deal with
- redundant : exceeding what is usual or necessary -back up : substitute kept in reserve
- liftoff : takeoff of a rocket from its launch pad -inexorable : impossible to stop
- corollary : (sth) that will also be true if a particular idea or statement is true, or (sth) that will also exist if a particular situation exists -hit-or-miss : not planned or done in an organized way

**What Does It Mean?**

- (1) Nobody can get anything past that Murphy!
- (2) doubly and triply redundant
- (3) a hit-or-miss type of event

**Comprehension**

- (1) Can you express Murphy's law a different way?
- (2) Who is Murphy? Does the writer know?

TEEN TALK!

- 1 Do you believe Murphy's Law is true? Why or why not?
- 2 What's the difference between a jinx⁺ and Murphy's Law?
- 3 Why does Murphy's Law seem to be accurate?⁺
- 4 Do you have any observations⁺ of your own that are similar⁺ to Murphy's Law?

- **jinx** : force that brings bad luck that stays with (sb) or (sth)

- **accurate** : free from errors or mistakes

- **observation** : process of watching (sth) or (sb) carefully for a period of time

- **similar** : almost the same, but not exactly the same



More Talking Points (A)

- (1) Toothaches tend to start on Saturday night.
(Q) What does this mean? Why is that a problem?
- (2) It's always my partner's fault.
(Q) Why do many people tend to blame other people instead of seeing their own faults?
- (3) The other line always moves faster.
(Q) Is this true? Why or why not?
- (4) No matter how long or how hard you shop for an item, after you've bought it it will be on sale cheaper somewhere else.
(Q) Is this true? Why or why not? How do you feel when this happens to you?
- (5) If your condition seems to be getting better, it's probably because your doctor is getting sick.
(Q) Why is that so?
- (6) Nobody notices the big errors.
(Q) Is it true? Why or why not?
- (7) Anything good in life is either illegal, immoral or fattening.
(Q) Can you illustrate any examples of these things?
- (8) Win or lose, you lose.
(Q) Do you understand what it means? Please explain it in your own words.
- (9) The chief cause of a problem is some solution.
(Q) What does it mean? Is it true?

- (10) The only imperfect thing in nature is humanity.
(Q) Do you understand what it means? Attack or defend the statement.
- (11) You can't tell how deep a puddle is until you step in it.
(Q) What does it mean?
- (12) The least experienced fisherman always catches the biggest fish.
(Q) Is this true? Can you give us any examples?
- (13) Whenever a superstar is traded to your favorite team, he fades.¹ Whenever your team trades away a useless no-name,² he immediately rises to stardom.³
(Q) Is that true? Why or why not?
- (14) The grass is always greener on the other side.
(Q) Does the person on the other side think so, too?

More Talking Points (B)

- (1) Give examples of how life does not seem to operate according to logic or reason, based on the expressions above.
- (2) If someone believes in these sayings, do you think he is more likely to be pessimistic or someone with a sense of humor. Defend your opinion.

→ **fade** : lose strength or vitality → **no-name** : not famous
→ **stardom** : status of great fame, esp. for ability or achievement



Opinion Samples >>

(1) I don't understand why things always go wrong! Or, rather, I do understand – it's because nobody ever does the hard preparation and thorough¹ follow-through² to accomplish the task. I keep coming THIS close to doing something, and someone else just needs to do one simple thing to finish it, and he doesn't manage to do it. So, I'm left holding the bag,³ despite all my effort. People need to be more conscientious⁴ and persevering!⁵

(2) When I was ten, I used to play basketball with my dad all the time. He always won, no matter how hard I tried. He never even broke into a sweat!⁶ By the time I was twenty, he had to strain⁷ to keep ahead of me. Now I'm almost thirty, and the roles are reversed⁸ – he can never win anymore! It just goes to show how practice and perseverance⁹ will eventually allow you to gain the upper hand.¹⁰

- **thorough** : complete in all ways

- **follow-through** : (sth) that is done in order to complete a plan or reaction

- **left holding the bag** : become responsible for (sth) that (sb) else has started

- **conscientious** : working hard and careful to do things well

- **persevering** : determined to continue trying to achieve (sth) difficult

- **break into a sweat** : perspire from exertion (or from fear or worry)

- **strain** : try very hard to do (sth), using all one's physical or mental strength

- **reverse** : turn in the opposite order

- **perseverance** : determination to keep trying to achieve (sth) in spite of difficulties

- **gain the upper hand** : have more power or authority than (sb) else

Read & Discuss

It Serves You Right!

The man disliked the family cat so much, he decided it was time to get rid of the animal. He drove the feline 20 minutes from home and abandoned it. But when he pulled into his driveway, the cat was already back home.



The next day he left the kitty 40 minutes away, but the cat still managed to beat him home.

So he took the cat on a long drive, arbitrarily turning left, then right, making U-turns, everything he could think of to throw off tabby's keen sense of direction. He finally left the cat in a park across town.

Hours later he called his wife. "Is the cat there?"

"Yes," the wife replied. "Why?"

"Put him on the phone. I'm lost and need directions home."



1. Do you like pets? Why or why not? How about cats?
2. Talk about the responsibilities pet people should have.

→ **it serves (sb) right** : (sb) deserves (sth) unpleasant that happens to one because of one's own actions or attitudes

→ **feline** : cat

→ **abandon** : leave (sb/sth)

→ **pull into** : drive into before stopping

→ **kitty** : cat

→ **beat** : act ahead of or arrive before (sb/sth)

→ **arbitrarily** : capriciously; erratically

→ **throw off** : trick (sb/sth); mislead