



**LANGUE VIVANTE I**

**ANGLAIS**

**Teens and Family Relationships : Parents**

During early and middle adolescent years, there are usually more frequent conflicts between teens and their parents. Often, youths try to assert their individuality and to exercise their independence. Youth may rebel against their parents' rules and values as part of their identity development process. Sometimes youths openly defy these rules and values, while at other times they do so in private. They may be reluctant to discuss certain topics with their caregivers when they are afraid **this** will get them into trouble. Another reason youth may refrain from discussing certain things with their parents is to prove that they can handle life's tough situations on their own. Sometimes youths avoid conversations with their caregivers because they believe their parents "just won't get it", or anticipate that their worries and concerns won't be taken seriously enough.

Parents ought to carefully listen to their teens' feelings, before jumping in with solutions. Moreover, parents should guard against trivializing the concerns of their teens. What may seem like a silly and insignificant problem to an adult with many years of experience can be a monumental **one** for a teen experiencing a particular situation for the first time. It is advisable that parents encourage their teens to develop their own solutions. This enables teens to practice independent decision-making while still benefiting from the wisdom of their parents. When parents remain sensitive to these issues, teens will discuss important problems with their parents, and will become closer to them during late adolescence.

The conflicts between parents and youths decline for several reasons. First, parents' roles change during late adolescence as **they** are no longer required to be the rule enforcer, or disciplinarian: their more mature teens are now better able to police themselves. Second, because of their greater cognitive and emotional maturity, youths are simply better able to have more mature relationships with everyone, including their parents. As adolescents move into adulthood, parents can begin to enjoy a friendlier and more reliable relationship with their almost-adult children.

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**I. READING COMPREHENSION (8 marks)**

**A. Fill in each blank with only one word from the text (0.5 x 3 = 1.5 marks)**

In some families, adolescents are 1..... (parag 1) to talk to their parents, especially if it is about sex matters. In fact, adults are used to 2..... (parag 2) things children report to them because according to tradition, children are not 3..... (parag 3)

**B. Here are 3 reasons why youth don't tell their problems to their parents. Match them with the concepts in the list below (1 x 3 = 3 marks)**

*Generation gap – Pessimism – Self-reliance*

Reasons	Concepts
4. They prove that they can handle life's tough situations on their own.	
5. This will get them into trouble.	
6. They believe their parent « just won't get it. »	

C. **Write True or False after these statements, then justify with a specific passage from the text.** (1 x 2 = 2 marks)

- 7. If teens develop their own solutions, they won't need to learn from their parents.  
.....
- 8. In their late adolescence young people are able to take care of their own lives.  
.....

D. **Who or what do these items refer to in the text ?** (0.5 x 3 = 1.5 marks)

- 9. **This** (line 5) .....
- 10. **One** (line 11) .....
- 11. **They** (line17).....

II. **LINGUISTIC AND COMMUNICATIVE COMPETENCE** (6 marks)

E. **Choose the correct verb from those in brackets to complete the following** (0.5 x 3 = 1.5 marks)

Nowadays, most parents hardly 12..... (don't get / get / aren't getting) on well with their adolescent children. If they 13 ..... (are / were / will be) more flexible, there would be less trouble at home. Therefore, authoritarian parents had better 14 ..... (to change / changing / change) their attitudes.

F. **Choose the most suitable word in brackets to complete the passage below.** (0.5 x 2 = 1 mark)

The main source of 15.....(understanding / misunderstanding / understood) between parents and their kids is lack of communication. Sometimes, their disagreements are so serious that they 16..... (threat / threaten / threatening) family harmony.

G. **Fill in the blanks with the appropriate connector from the list below:** (0.5 x 3 = 1.5 marks)

**Unless – however – Owing to – Despite – Thanks to – as long as**

Raising children is a real challenge for 21<sup>st</sup> century families. 17..... mass media, it has become much more difficult for parents to make teens obey them. It is so because many adolescents don't trust their parents and 18..... there is mutual mistrust, problems will arise. Fortunately, compromises can be found 19..... worrying the situation may be.

H. **Complete this dialogue meaningfully between a parent and a psychologist** (0.5 x 4 = 2 marks)

**Parent** : I'm really concerned, doctor! I can't understand my daughter. She's changed a lot these days.  
**Psychologist** : (20) Does she..... ?  
**Parent** : Not very often! Most of the time, she stays alone in her room.  
**Psychologist** : She has friends at least,(21) .....she ?  
**Parent** : Certainly! But I barely see them at home.  
**Psychologist** : (22) Why don't you..... ?  
**Parent** : Ok, doctor! But apart from that, (23) .....?  
**Psychologist** : Be nice to her. She needs to feel you trust her.

III. **WRITING** Choose only one topic (6 marks)

**TOPIC 1** : Nowadays, the relationships between parents and their teens are conflicting. Discuss the causes and drawbacks of these conflicts, then suggest some solutions.

**TOPIC 2** : Mr. Diop is a very jealous man; he often has problems with his daughter Faatu. Imagine a conversation between them.