

Teen Talk

Why do people make the wrong choices?
 What do you want to achieve in your life?
 What would you say to your friends?
 What would you say if one of your friends was in trouble?
 What are the five most valuable things in your life?
 Make your own list of "Dear A..."

Opinion Samples

Can you please delay your drowning until I have time to help you?



QUESTIONS

1. In what ways are adults...

Third Edition

TEEN TALK 1

Written by LIS KOREA Editorial Staff & Duane Vorhees

15 Teen Issues Provide

9 formats with **583** Discussion Points

What Does It Mean? / Comprehension / Teen Talk /
 Opinion Samples / Dialog / Read & Discuss /
 Pictures Talk / What's Your Advice? / Synopsis





Teen Talk

Why do people make the wrong choices?
What do you want to achieve in your life?
What would you say to your friends if they were making a bad choice?
What would you say if one of your friends was in trouble?
What are the five most valuable things in your life?
Make your own list of "Dear A..."

Opinion Samples

Can you please delay your drowning until I have time to help you?



QUESTIONS

1. In what ways are adults punishing children?
2. How are children most likely to be punished?
3. In terms of the essay above, what do you think is the most effective way to discipline children?

Third Edition

TEEN TALK 1

Written by LIS KOREA Editorial Staff & Duane Vorhees

If getting hit by your fastball eventually become a great punishment, I would mind sacrificing my comfort. At least you're not practicing on me.



They grounded me for a whole month. I was grounded. Or my privileges curtailed. Or some other punishment. I thought getting punished was more trouble. I thought getting punished was more trouble. I thought getting punished was more trouble.

My punishment is for my own good. If it's true, it must hurt them a lot, because you know they really love you? They're with me. I know they make many mistakes in terms of giving up things they love when I'm in trouble.

They're making me stay home all night. It's not like I'm in jail or anything. I think the idea of disciplining me was unfair and they said.

It made him change the school policy. I got additional homework. I love you, after all.

What do you think about your school? How is it punished? Is it strict or not strict enough? Do you think it's fair? I say "Your punishment is for your own good."

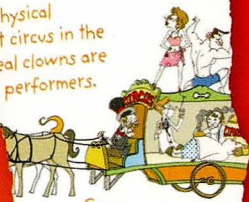
...with friends as a form of punishment

Experts seem to agree that the pressure is on ordinary young women. They're being judged in crude, abominable ways. Is an entire generation being raised to be addicted to TV screens, magazine pages, and computer screens?

They're forgotten in this discussion. Girls do, even if this pressure means they're so powerful that many young women can achieve the desired results. And girls are being judged.

It has made plastic surgery an issue. A number of teenagers would jump on the bandwagon; and those jumping on the bandwagon are "nose jobs" and liposuction (to name a few).

physical... best circus in the world... real clowns are... performers.



...trying to look better? ...of physical change (such as a drastic change) ...you would never find acceptable?

...duty to (sth) ...; blunt or offensive ...and unpleasant -plague : cause constant trouble ...early ...gon : begin to do (sth) that a lot of people are doing ...picture, word, etc.) on a part of (sb's) body

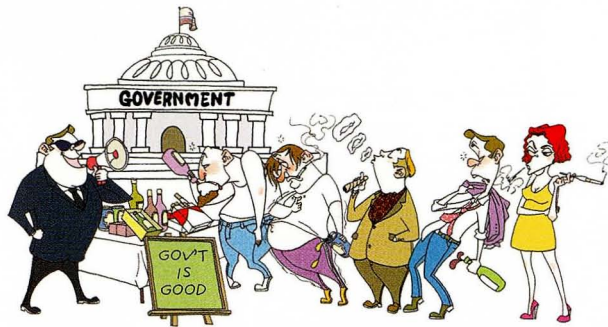
Recommendation

For years, TEEN TALK has been the leading publication among young adults who want to improve their English facility. It has always emphasized free and intelligent discussion of important issues in daily life, rather than memorization or grammar. Students and teachers alike have praised the series as a means of getting young people to want to speak their minds in English, because it treats them as knowledgeable people with sound ideas, not as robots or children.

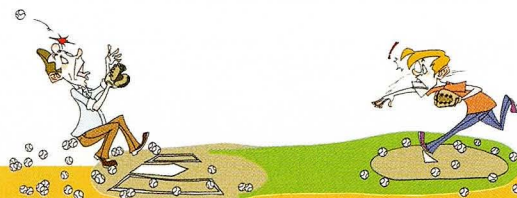
But even great products can be improved. Such is the case with the NEW TEEN TALK. The old notions that made TEEN TALK stand out among English educators have been retained, but the structure has been improved upon to provide quicker and more productive discussion.

LIS KOREA wants to thank all of its supporters for their enthusiastic devotion to TEEN TALK and its other publications, but is proud to introduce the new version. We believe the new look and new approach will even better serve the needs of its users.

Duane Vorhees



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WISH 'N' DISH Lists:
What I Love and What I Hate.



We all have strong likes and dislikes. Most of us have a “wish list” of things we would like to do or to have, as well as a “dish list” of things we don’t want or don’t want to do. Some of the following items are particular to their authors, but most would fit onto⁺ a universal⁺ list. I bet⁺ you agree with all of these items.

You need to establish better priorities — study harder, exercise more ...



Everything I want is either immoral, illegal, or fattening.

● ● **WISH LIST**

- Have many friends
- Do better in school
- Eat more candy, hamburgers, pizza, fried chicken, and ice cream
- Wear expensive designer clothes and top brands
- Get more attention from other people
- Win the lottery
- Always have the latest⁺ cell phone
- Play computer games all night
- Be famous
- Be the star on a winning team

→ **fit onto** : be suitable for
 → **universal** : involving or affecting everyone in the world
 → **I bet** : I'm sure
 → **latest** : most recent or modern
 → **priorities** : things that (sb) cares about and thinks are important

● ● DISH LIST

- Get up early every morning
- Listen to your parents nag⁺
- Read boring books
- Jog and exercise more
- Do homework and study harder
- Get blamed for things you didn't do
- Brush your teeth after every meal
- Break old habits and develop new skills
- Stay at home all the time
- Worry about the future

Was I wrong? Are there any items you would remove from either list?
What else would you add to both lists?

● ● ● What Does It Mean?

- (1) Particular to their authors
- (2) Fit onto a universal list
- (3) Dish list

● ● ● Comprehension

- (1) What wager⁺ did the author make? Did he win or lose?
- (2) Of the 10 items on the WISH LIST, how many do you have now?
What are they?
- (3) Out of all the DISH LIST items, how many do you have to endure⁺
these days?

-nag : frequently ask or tell (sb) to do (sth) in an annoying way
-wager : bet
-endure : deal with or accept (sth) unpleasant



1. What do you love to do more than anything else?
2. What is your biggest pet peeve?†
3. The things we love to do — what do they have in common?‡
4. What joint characteristics‡ do the things we hate to do have?
5. What would happen if we only did the things we love? What would happen if we never did any of them?
6. What could you do to improve your life?
7. What is the first step in giving up something you love but is bad for you?
8. How would you begin to do new things which are good for you but you hate? Give examples.
9. “Good habits, bad habits — These are the sum total† of our lives.” Can you explain what that means? Do you agree?
10. How many of the things on your WISH LIST would your parents put on their DISH LIST for you? How many of your dishes would they put on your list of wishes? Why are the two sets of lists different?

Opinion Samples



I have become a zombie robot to my habits!

1. What do you do every single day, without ever actually thinking about doing it? Whatever you answer, if you always do something more or less automatically, it is habitual behavior. It may be some good practice, such as getting up at a certain time, taking a bath or shower every day, or eating a healthy breakfast, or it may be something less beneficial like spending many hours every night playing computer games or talking to friends on the phone. But you engage in this activity because it is something you “always do,” not because you have to think about it anymore, not because you decide that it is necessary or useful or even fun. Nevertheless, performing these thoughtless, robotic acts, whether good ones or bad, is how we spend most

→ **pet peeve** : (sth) that annoys or bothers (sb) very much

→ **in common** : shared together

→ **characteristics** : special qualities or traits

→ **sum total** : whole amount ; entire total of (sth)

→ **zombie** : (sb) who moves very slowly and is not aware of what is happening esp. because of being very tired

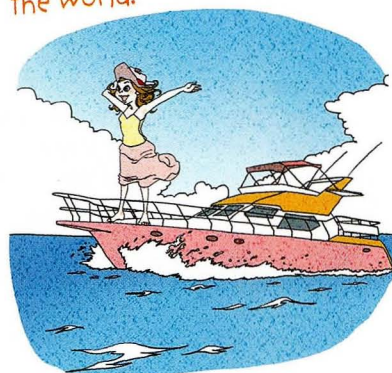
of our time. And it is very difficult to stop doing them, even if we become aware of them.

QUESTIONS

1. In your own words, define "habit."
2. What good habits do you have? Do you have any bad ones?

2. I first became interested in sailing when I joined a sailing club in college. I thought I would have a passing⁺ interest in the sport, but I was absolutely wrong. Sailing became one of the ruling⁺ passions of my life. I have crossed the Atlantic three times and the Pacific once, and I'm currently planning to sail around the world solo. Even though the expenses and the need for constant upkeep⁺ have stretched⁺ my financial resources for my entire adult life, I have never regretted my love affair with sailing. The feel of the tiller⁺, the touch of the wind, the yellow sun glinting⁺ against the blue water are sensations I have never tired of — except once. That was the time when I lived in a houseboat and gave up my job, deciding I'd spend the rest of my life on the water. I would rent out my boat to tourists and fishermen and get paid to skipper⁺ it. That was a big mistake. When I was sailing every day, and especially when I was doing it for money, I began to get bored⁺ with it. The old thrill⁺ started to fade.⁺ After six months, though I was making a good living financially, I was ready to get a divorce. I sold my boat and moved as far inland as I could. That, too, was a mistake, and I soon became dissatisfied with the landlubber's⁺ life. But I learned something important: If we only do the one thing we love, there is no contrast that reminds us of our joy in doing it; but if we never do that thing we love, life becomes meaningless.

On my boat, I'm Queen of the world!



QUESTIONS

1. Would you like to take a voyage someplace? Where?
2. Do you have a strong passion for some activity, such as Baduk or golf or sports? What is it?

→ **passing** : lasting for only a short time → **ruling** : having control and power
→ **upkeep** : process of keeping (sth) in good condition → **stretch** : cause (sth) to be used for a longer time
→ **tiller** : handle that is used to steer a boat → **glint** : shine in small bright flashes
→ **skipper** : be the captain of a ship or boat → **bored** : tired and impatient
→ **thrill** : strong feeling of excitement and pleasure → **fade** : gradually disappear
→ **landlubber** : (sb) who is not a sailor

Dialog

- Joe : Did you watch the football game last night?
Fran : I wanted to, but I had a lot of homework.
Joe : That's too bad. It was really exciting to the very end. I thought my team was going to lose, but somehow they managed an upset. [↓] I was very happy at the outcome! [↓]
Fran : I wish I could have seen it with you. That would have been fun.
Joe : Did you finish your homework?
Fran : Almost. I still have a little bit more to do.
Joe : Can I copy what you have? I didn't have a chance to do any of it.
Fran : Why should you get to have all the fun, while I have to do all the work? That's not fair.
Joe : But we're friends. And friends are supposed to help each other out. Just remember how many times I've come to your aid when you really needed help.
Fran : That's true. But whenever I've needed your assistance, it was only after I had tried to do something myself but failed. I've never asked you to do my work for me, just to help me figure out how to do it on my own. That's a big difference!
Joe : How is that any different? You don't want me to fail this class, do you?
Fran : Of course not! But if you merely copy my homework, how are you going to be able to know how to answer the questions on the test? Getting a good grade on the exam is a lot more important than getting good homework points.
Joe : But I can study your answers and prepare for the exam that way.
Fran : But the point is that we had the same opportunity to make the same choice last night. We could have both watched the game, or we could have both studied. You made one choice, and I made the other one. So why should you get all the benefit from our respective [↓] choices, but I had to do all the hard work?
Joe : You're right. I'm sorry. We should have planned ahead. Maybe we could have both done half the homework ourselves and watched the end of the game together, and then we could help each other understand the part we didn't do. That would be fair.
Fran : That's a good idea. Why don't we do that next week when the game is on? You can come to my place and eat with me.
Joe : Okay. I'll bring some pizza or something.
Fran : My parents always say, "Things which are fun and easy to do are no help for the future." But sharing work with you and having fun together at the same time seems like a very useful way to enjoy ourselves.
Joe : I agree. And I'm really looking forward to [↓] doing this next week. But, meanwhile, I still need the answers for last night's homework. Can you help me out, just this once? [↓]

Just one slice! It will be fun!



I have a lot of work to do.

QUESTIONS

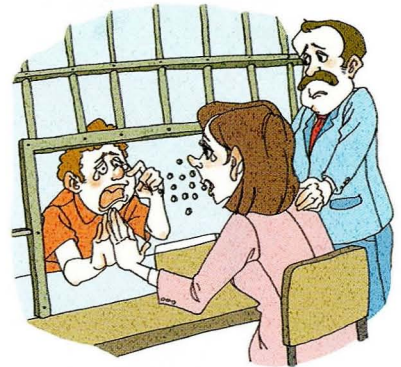
1. Why didn't Joe finish his homework?
2. Should Fran help Joe? Explain your opinion.

→ **upset** : occasion when a person or team that is not expected to win beats a stronger opponent in a competition
→ **outcome** : final result → **respective** : particular → **look forward to** : expect (sth) with pleasure
→ **just this once** : only in this situation, not again in the future

My Life as a Rebel

My rebellion⁺ started in earnest⁺ when I was 16. I was against anyone in authority — especially my parents and my teachers. I only did what I wanted to do, and of course mostly what I wanted to do was what the adults around me told me I shouldn't do. As time went on, I kept getting into bigger and bigger jams,⁺ one after another. My dad told me I needed discipline,⁺ and sooner or later I would get it, he said, whether in the army or in prison. But of course I laughed in his face. Because of the alcohol and drugs, I was in a fog⁺ a lot of the time. Somehow I made it through⁺ high school, but it didn't take me long to flunk out⁺ of college. So, naturally, I went into the army. My dad was wrong, though: my know-it-all attitude got me a dishonorable discharge⁺ in less than six months. I couldn't find a job and, quite honestly, I didn't look very hard for one. After all, working is certainly no fun. It didn't take me long to get into trouble with the law, but I was lucky once again. I got off on probation.⁺ I only got into another, bigger mess,⁺ and this time the judge gave me 12 years. I'm in prison now. I don't have any freedom, the food is terrible, and my only friends are criminals. I count the days until I can get out of here. I hope that my father was right, after all; maybe the army didn't give me the discipline I need, but maybe prison life will. There is nothing I want more than to get out and try again to make a different kind of life for myself.

The point I want to make is this: Even if you don't agree with your parents, listen to them. They were once your age, even if it was a long time ago, but you haven't gotten to their age yet. So they know more about things than you do, because they have twice as much experience. When people who care about you tell you something, maybe you should listen to them. Now that it's too late, I realize I was wrong about all the important things. Yes, Mr. Rebel Man, I hear your scorn and your ridicule. Laugh if you want to, just like I did. After all, you know better than everyone else, don't you? But when you end up⁺ behind bars, who is the joker⁺ then?



If you let me out, I promise to listen to you from now on.

QUESTIONS

1. Do you know anyone who seems likely to end up like the narrator did? Do you have any advice for that person?
2. Why do teens usually go through a rebellious period as they grow up?
3. On the other hand, many of the people who have the greatest success are the same ones who refuse to conform⁺ to the society they grow up in. How can we tell if going against the grain⁺ is likely to lead to good or bad results?

- **rebellion** : opposition to (sb) in authority or to accepted rules - **in earnest** : in a serious way
- **jam** : difficult situation - **discipline** : way of behaving that shows a willingness to obey rules or orders
- **in a fog** : confused and unable to think clearly
- **make it through** : manage to continue doing (sth) until it is finished
- **flunk out** : be forced to leave a school or college because of poor scholastic performance
- **discharge** : dismissal or release - **probation** : system by which (sb) who has committed a crime is not sent to prison but has to agree not to break the law again - **mess** : situation that is very complicated or difficult to deal with
- **end up** : come to be in a particular situation
- **joker** : (sb) who behaves in a stupid or clownish way - **conform** : obey or agree with (sth)
- **go against the grain** : act in a way that is different from what is normal or usual

1.

QUESTIONS

Good habits taste like medicine.

Bad habits are as sweet as honey.

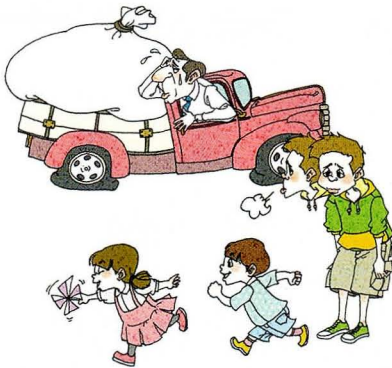


But they affect our health and happiness in opposite ways.

- (1) Why do teens easily fall into bad habits but have difficulty forming good ones?
- (2) Explain how your good habits lead to success and how your bad ones may have negative effects on your life.
- (3) Even good habits may have harmful effects if performed immoderately. Can you think of any examples?

2.

QUESTIONS



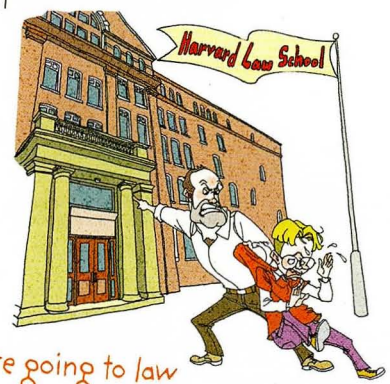
I don't understand why our parents don't enjoy life more. Like we do!

- (1) Would you want to return to a younger age? Why or why not?
- (2) Do you want to grow up soon? Why or why not?
- (3) Compare your responsibilities with those of your parents.



What's Your Advice?

1. I need your advice. I am a good student with many friends at school, and an active participant in sports and other activities. My problem is my father. He wants me to be a lawyer so I can make lots of money. But I don't have any interest in law at all. I want to become a teacher, even though I know I'll never get rich doing that. The better I do in school, the higher my dad's expectations rise. So, what can I do? How can I make both myself and my dad happy?



You're going to law school and like it!

Maybe you can make me go, but you can't make me like it.

2. My life is a mess.* I live with a single mom, so we don't have much money or a nice home. I am not good looking, and I don't have any close friends. My grades are poor, and I have no interest in anything in particular. A long time ago, I gave up thinking that things will get any better in the future, but I still worry about it. What if they get worse? Is there anything I can do about my situation?

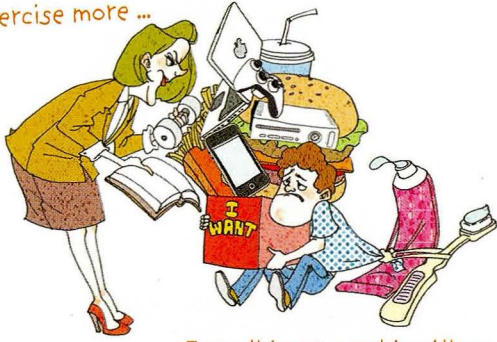


You need to improve your life!

I'm not Cinderella. There is no Prince Charming who will come along and save me.

-mess : situation that is very complicated or difficult to deal with

1
You need to establish better priorities — study harder, exercise more ...



Everything I want is either immoral, illegal, or fattening.

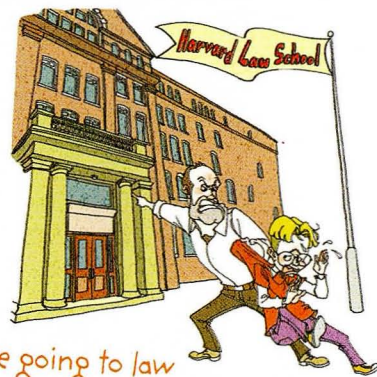


2
I have become a zombie robot to my habits!



9
You need to improve your life!

I'm not Cinderella. There is no Prince Charming who will come along and save me.



8
You're going to law school and like it!

Maybe you can make me go, but you can't make me like it.

On my boat, I'm Queen of the world!

3



Just one slice! It will be fun!

4



I have a lot of work to do.

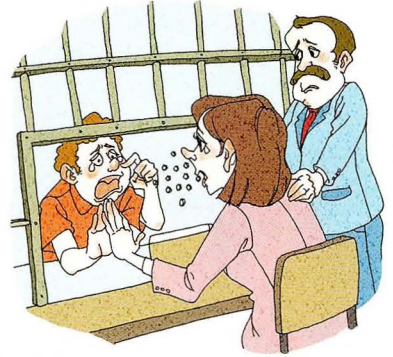
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These are the pictures you've seen in this chapter. It will be good speaking practice for you to talk about these pictures once again. Your teacher will ask you "What are they doing?" or "What does this picture mean?" or some other question. You can give a straight answer or you can use your imagination. The purpose is to allow free conversation; there is no "right" answer.

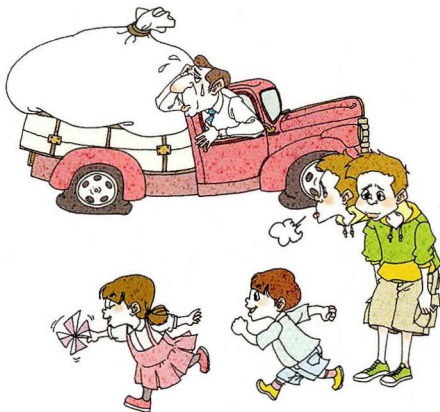
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5



If you let me out, I promise to listen to you from now on.



7

I don't understand why our parents don't enjoy life more. Like we do!

Good habits taste like medicine.

Bad habits are as sweet as honey.

6



But they affect our health and happiness in opposite ways.

17



- Just for today, I will live through⁺ the next 12 hours and not try to tackle⁺ all the problems of my life at one time.
- Just for today, I will improve my mind. I will learn one useful thing. I will read something that requires effort, thought and consideration.
- Just for today, I will be agreeable.⁺ I will look my best, speak quietly, and be courteous⁺ and considerate.⁺
- Just for today, I will not find fault with⁺ any friend, relative or colleague. I will not try to change or improve anyone but myself.
- Just for today, I will have a program⁺ and follow it as closely as I can. I will save myself from two deadly⁺ enemies: haste and indecision.⁺
- Just for today, I will do someone a good turn⁺ and keep it a secret. If anyone finds out about it, the good deed won't count,⁺ so I'll have to do another one to make up for⁺ it.



- > **live through** : spend the time -> **tackle** : make a determined effort to deal with a difficult problem
- > **agreeable** : pleasing to the mind or senses; pleasant; willing to agree
- > **courteous** : considerate toward other people
- > **considerate** : always thinking of what other people need or want
- > **find fault with** : criticize (sb/sth) -> **program** : set of planned activities in education or training
- > **deadly** : fatal -> **indecision** : state of being unable to decide what to do
- > **do (sb) a good turn** : do (sth) helpful for (sb) -> **count** : include (sth) in a total
- > **make up for** : replace

- Just for today, I will do two things I don't want to, just for exercise.
- Just for today, I will be unafraid. In particular, I will be courageous enough to enjoy that which is beautiful. I will believe that what I give to the world, the world will give to me.

● ● ● What Does It Mean?

- (1) I will save myself from two deadly enemies: haste and indecision.
- (2) If anyone finds out about it, the good deed won't count, so I'll have to do another one to make up for it.
- (3) I will believe that what I give to the world, the world will give to me.

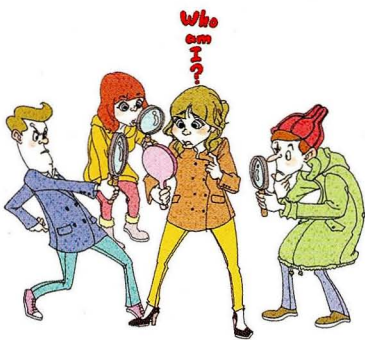
● ● ● Comprehension

- (1) How is today going to be different from other days?
- (2) According to the list, why do something that is not enjoyable?
- (3) How can one be brave, in terms of the list?



1. What do you do to improve your mind?
2. What do you do to improve your body?
3. What are your most serious problems these days? If you have solved them all, how did you do it?
4. What are you going to do to solve your biggest problem?
5. What do your parents think about you? Do you think they are proud of you? Why or why not?
6. Do you think it's easy to change yourself? Why or why not?
7. What are you most afraid of in life?
8. What do you want to do the most, at present?
9. Why do many people fail to keep in good shape through regular exercise? Give at least three reasons.
10. People seem ready to find fault with others but not themselves. Why?

Opinion Samples



There are more eyes looking at me than just my own.

1. I can't change myself, because I don't even understand myself. My parents, friends, teachers, and others are constantly telling me things about myself that I had never even thought of before they told me! I often think they must be mistaken,[↓] but after I give the matter some thought I usually come to realize that they were not wrong after all. So, I can't help wondering:[↓] If everyone else knows so much about me, why don't I realize the same things? Why are they such secrets, at least as far as I am concerned? And, most importantly, if I don't know what I am, how can I ever expect to become something else?

→ **mistaken** : wrong

→ **wondering** : having doubts

QUESTIONS

1. How well do you know yourself? Do you think you understand yourself perfectly? Give an example.
2. Do you agree that others understand you better than you do? Why or why not?
3. Explain who/what you are.

2. I'm afraid of many things. I don't want to die in a burning building. I don't want to be in a train wreck⁺ or get cancer. I hope we never have another war here again. These kinds of fears are very normal, don't you think? And yet, all of them are pretty unlikely, at least any time soon. So, I guess maybe I should not worry about these things excessively. More realistically,⁺ then, what I fear most is not having any friends. If I had to distrust⁺ everyone around me and could not depend on other people, how could I ever accomplish anything? I know I'm not smart enough or strong enough to do everything on my own.



What a dangerous place the world is!

Don't worry, Son. My love will carry you.

QUESTIONS

1. Are you fearful that war or natural disaster⁺ will occur soon? Why or why not?
2. Are you scared of catching a cold? Why or why not? What diseases are you afraid of?
3. Are you concerned about getting bad grades in school? Why or why not?

→ **wreck** : vehicle, airplane, etc. that has been badly damaged or destroyed

→ **realistically** : in a practical way

→ **distrust** : have no trust or confidence

→ **natural disaster** : sudden events such as a flood, storm, or accident that causes great damage

→ **carry** : support

Dialog

- Chloe : Did you hear about Bertha?
Tyrone : No. What happened?
Chloe : Well, I heard that she had a big fight with Jack, and they broke up.
Tyrone : That's terrible. They seemed like the perfect couple!
Chloe : I always knew that Bertha's bad temper would get her into trouble.
Tyrone : I never noticed she had a bad temper.
Chloe : Why do you always contradict[↓] me?
Tyrone : Whoa! Settle down.[↓] You don't need to get so upset.
Chloe : What do you mean? You call me a liar, and then you say I shouldn't get upset?
Tyrone : But I didn't say you were lying. I just made an observation,[↓] that's all.
Chloe : I'll settle down when you apologize.
Tyrone : OK. I'm sorry.
Chloe : Apology accepted. Now, where was I?
Tyrone : You were talking about Bertha's bad habits.
Chloe : She has a lot of them, you know?
Tyrone : Such as?
Chloe : She's an inveterate gossip,[↓] always running her friends down.[↓]
Tyrone : Yes, I noticed that.
Chloe : And deceitful![↓] She's always trying to steal somebody else's boyfriend.
Tyrone : No! Really?
Chloe : She's too secretive. There always has to be a big mystery about everything.
Tyrone : Oh?
Chloe : And she thinks she's hot stuff![↓] Always prancing[↓] around with new clothes and fancy jewelry!
Tyrone : Speaking of which, those are very nice earrings you're wearing. Where did you get them?
Chloe : I'm sorry, I promised I wouldn't tell who gave them to me. But they're gorgeous, aren't they? They match perfectly my new blouse and shoes.
Tyrone : Why are you dressing up so much these days? Even more than usual?
Chloe : Well, now that Jack is available,[↓] I want him to notice me.
Tyrone : Why are you so interested in Jack? In my opinion, he's too wishy-washy.[↓]

Good-bye Jack!
Get out of my life!



Well, hello, Jack!

QUESTIONS

1. In what ways does Chloe seem oblivious[↓] about her own shortcomings?[↓] List as many as you can.
2. What about Tyrone? Does he seem to know his own character very well?

- > **contradict** : say that what (sb) else has said is wrong or not true -> **settle down** : calm down
-> **observation** : act of careful watching -> **inveterate gossip** : (sb) who gossips a lot
-> **run (sb) down** : say things that are impolite, bad, or unfair about (sb)
-> **deceitful** : trying to make (sb) believe (sth) that is not true -> **hot stuff** : unusually good or popular
-> **prance** : walk or move in a lively and proud way -> **available** : not involved in a romantic relationship
-> **wishy-washy** : weak and not able or not willing to act -> **oblivious** : not aware of (sth)
-> **shortcoming** : weakness in (sb's) character

Standing Up

[A] These days, I often see a pregnant[↓] woman board a bus and stand, while young men listen to their music and pretend not to notice her. Many times, I've watched teenagers chatter like birds with their friends and act "cool,"[↓] while a passenger wearing leg braces[↓] stands right in front of them. Almost every day, I see men and women who are so old and weak that they can't even stand up straight, but the young men wearing muscle shirts and tennis shoes continue to sit in their seats until they reach their destination. I guess, with all those muscles they're showing off, they must be very tired. I was taught common courtesy at a young age. I remember being told by my mother that if I didn't offer my seat to a handicapped person or an elderly man or woman, or a woman with child or one with several small children to take care of, she'd make sure I wouldn't be able to sit down again for a week! Today, people have no respect for members of their own family, so how can we expect them to respect strangers?

[B] Do you know why so many women stand on buses and subways, while the men sit and read their newspapers? I'll tell you. Those men were raised with no manners. Last week I was seated behind a woman and her teenage son. The kid was engrossed[↓] in his comic book. An elderly woman got on and stood near us, struggling to stay upright. She had a cane and limped[↓] badly. The woman in front of me gave her son a sharp poke[↓] in the ribs and said, "Get up and give that lady your seat, right now, before I let you have it upside your head." I agree that she was not very refined[↓] in her speech, but she sure was doing a fine job of instilling[↓] proper respect in her son, and I told her so when I got off.



QUESTIONS

1. Do you think people should give up their seats to the elderly or the very young? Why or why not?
2. Some people argue that they have as much right to a seat on a public conveyance[↓] as anyone else. There aren't enough seats to go around, so it's a matter of first come, first served. Do you agree?
3. When was the last time you saw a pregnant woman on a bus or subway and did not offer her a seat? How did you feel? The last time you actually gave up your seat in such a situation, how did you feel?

→ **pregnant** : having a child developing in the body → **cool** : detached; not involved
 → **leg braces** : pair of metal objects that (sb) wears around the leg to help him walk
 → **engrossed** : so interested or involved in (sth) that one does not think about anything else
 → **limp** : walk slowly and with difficulty → **poke** : quick push with finger or pointed object
 → **refined** : polite; cultured → **instill** : teach (sb) a way of thinking or behaving → **conveyance** : vehicle

I used to be "today."



I won't be
"Now"
for long.

The future will be here
before we know it.

1.

QUESTIONS

- (1) What's the meaning of "yesterday"?
- (2) Which is the most important among these three things — yesterday, today, or tomorrow? Why?
- (3) Do you think time passes fast or slow? Why do you think so?

2.

QUESTIONS



- (1) If you had 24 hours of your own, without any responsibilities, how would you spend that time?
- (2) What if you had a whole year of your own?
- (3) Do you want to know what will happen in your future? Why or why not?

- I'd get more exercise.
- I'd catch up on my correspondence.
- I'd take the time to enjoy a delicious meal.
- I'd study harder.
- I'd relax in a hot tub.
- I'd like to sleep.



What's Your Advice?

Well, at least we enjoy your misery.

Why can't we be friends?



Maybe this wasn't such a good idea.

1. I am a boy in middle school. For a long time I have been in love with Beth, but I was too shy to tell her how I felt about her. We see each other a lot, at school and other places, and she always smiles at me and seems to want to have a closer relationship with me. So, finally, I got up enough courage to tell her how I felt and asked her to be my girlfriend. But, still smiling, she said, "No, I just want us to be friends." Whenever we see each other now, she treats me the same way she always did, but I still feel the same way. I can't sleep, eat, or study, and I don't even want to go to school. What's worse, every classmate knows about how she rejected me. Is there something I can do to change her mind? Do you think she feels the same way I do, but maybe she is too afraid of her feelings to let me know about it? Or, should I try to forget her and get on with⁺ my life? Should I accept her invitation to be friends, or would I be better off trying to keep away from her altogether? What should I do?

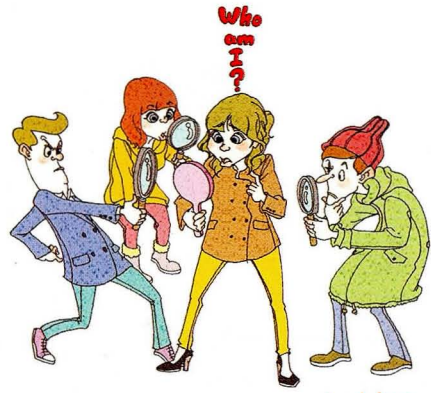
2. I am a middle school student. I love my boyfriend, who is handsome, smart, and the most popular boy in his class. He is two years older than I am. But when we are together, somehow we always end up arguing with each other, although usually it is not about anything serious. We are always able to make up⁺ with each other before we say good-bye. But he's very assertive⁺ and controlling.⁺ He never wants to do things I enjoy but insists that I share his pleasures. If he does not get his own way, he pouts⁺ or gets angry, and I have to try to jolly⁺ him back into a good mood. He has never been violent with me, but sometimes I am afraid of him. Even if he apologizes for his behavior, which does not happen often, he never takes it to heart;⁺ he never tries to act differently. I know that we are not really suited⁺ to one another and that we should end the relationship at once, but I am afraid I will not be able to forget him. I know I could never find another boyfriend as wonderful as he is. Do you have any words of wisdom for me?



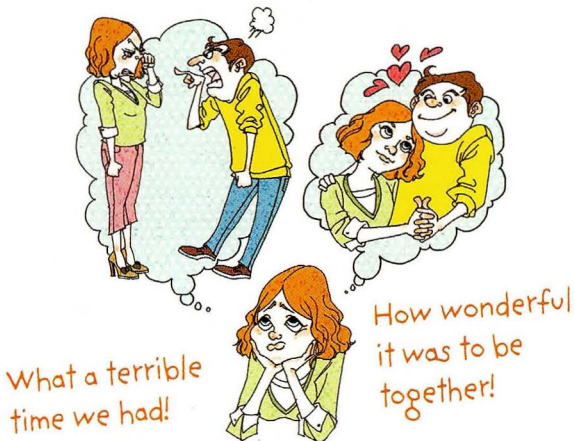
What a terrible time we had!

How wonderful it was to be together!

- get on with (sth) : continue doing (sth) after you have stopped doing it for a while
- make up : become friendly again after being angry
- assertive : confident in behavior or style
- controlling : having a need to control other people's behavior
- pout : push out your lips to show that you are angry or annoyed
- jolly : try to make (sb) happy
- take (sth) to heart : listen carefully to what (sb) says to you
- suited : having the qualities that are right, needed, or appropriate for (sth)



There are more eyes looking at me than just my own.



Why can't we be friends?

Well, at least we enjoy your misery.



Maybe this wasn't such a good idea.

3

What a dangerous
place the world is!



Don't worry, Son. My love will carry you.

4

Good-bye Jack!
Get out of my life!



Well, hello, Jack!

S · y · n · o · p · s · i · s

These are the pictures you've seen in this chapter. It will be good speaking practice for you to talk about these pictures once again. Your teacher will ask you "What are they doing?" or "What does this picture mean?" or some other question. You can give a straight answer or you can use your imagination. The purpose is to allow free conversation; there is no "right" answer.

S · y · n · o · p · s · i · s

S · y · n · o · p · s · i · s

5

My son doesn't
need this seat.

Thank you.



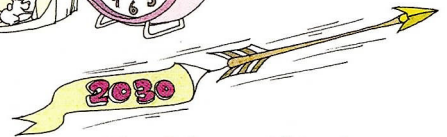
We need
a longer bus
so I could sit down too.

6

I used to be "today."



I won't be
"Now"
for long.



The future will be here
before we know it.

7



- I'd get more exercise.
- I'd catch up on my correspondence.
- I'd take the time to enjoy a delicious meal.
- I'd study harder.
- I'd relax in a hot tub.
- I'd like to sleep.

27

We Are Not Like Our Parents

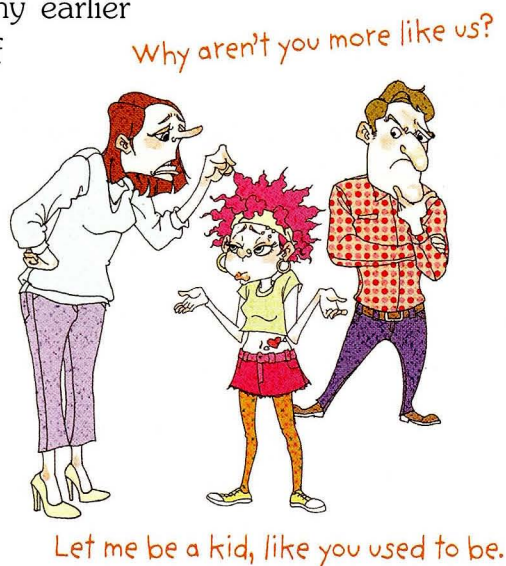


Many teens feel that their parents don't understand them. It is as though their parents are "from a different world." This is a normal reaction, due to the generation gap⁺ between teens and their parents.

Parents tend to be conservative⁺ in their child-rearing philosophy. They are under a lot of financial and social pressure to succeed, and they don't have enough time or energy to devote themselves exclusively⁺ to taking care of their children. They probably remember experiencing many of the same problems their kids are going through,⁺ but they also recall how naive they were at that age. Of course, they also hope their progeny⁺ can avoid some of the mistakes that the parents made. One of the few guides they have is remembering the way adults (especially their own parents) responded to them when they were young, so they tend to act the same way. This is how families have been raised for millennia.⁺

Kids, however, have not lived through any earlier time. They don't have a large backlog⁺ of experiences. Everything is relatively new to them, and full of possibilities.

"Some people look at the world and ask why, but I look at it and ask why not?" is likely to be a dominating⁺ attitude. They are unsympathetic⁺ to their parents' apparent⁺ apathy.⁺ They know the world is full of hypocrisy⁺ and unfairness, and they



- **generation gap** : difference in opinions or behaviors between older and younger people
- **conservative** : believing in the value of established and traditional practices
- **exclusively** : only - **go through** : experience - **progeny** : child
- **millennium** : period of 1,000 years - **backlog** : reserve or accumulation
- **dominating** : being the most important feature - **unsympathetic** : not showing approval of (sth)
- **apparent** : obvious - **apathy** : lack of feeling or interest; indifference
- **hypocrisy** : pretending to have qualities or views that one does not really possess

strongly believe that they can change it. This is how human society makes progress, though it is far slower and less complete than the young want.

What happens, of course, is that the young, impatient (and maybe radical)[↓] as they are, eventually grow up, get a job, and start a family; and the cycle begins anew.[↓] Before they know it, they are the hide-bound[↓] conservatives they had despised[↓] in their youth, and the children they conceive[↓] are the ones with the time, energy, and vision needed to try to create a new society.

● ● ● What Does It Mean?

- (1) Parents tend to be conservative in their child-rearing philosophy.
- (2) Some people look at the world and ask why, but I look at it and ask why not?
- (3) They are the hide-bound conservatives they had despised in their youth.

● ● ● Comprehension

- (1) How do parents learn how to raise their children? Are there any other ways not mentioned in the text?
- (2) Why are the young so impatient with how members of the older generations do things?
- (3) Who are right, the parents or the children?

-
- **radical** : very new and different from what is traditional or ordinary
 - **anew** : over again
 - **hide-bound** : not willing to change habits or ideas
 - **despise** : dislike (sth) very much
 - **conceive** : give birth to



1. Do you think your parents understand you, and vice versa?[↓]
2. What can we learn from our parents?
3. What can we learn better from our friends?
4. When do you feel most strongly that you are not like your parents?
5. On what issues do you strongly agree with your parents?
6. How will you raise your kids in the future?
7. What is your definition of a successful life? If it is different from your parents', say how.

More Talking Points

I agree or disagree with my parents on the subject of

1. Saving money
2. Having a boyfriend or girlfriend
3. Fashions
4. Curfew[↓]
5. Going to college and getting a diploma
6. Owning a car
7. Job selection
8. Spending time on the computer
9. Music
10. Marriage

Opinion Samples



Are we really
different after all?

1. Everyone says that I am just like my father, except shorter. But I don't see how that can be true. First of all, we don't look alike, though I must admit that when I look at his old photos I can see a strong resemblance. So, maybe when I grow up I will look like him. I hope so, because I think he is a very handsome man. But right now, we're not the same. Second, he hates my music, my clothes, and my friends. But my grandpa tells me that he and my dad had the same fights when

-vice versa : conversely

-curfew : time set by a parent at which a child has to be back home after going out

my dad was growing up. Finally, we don't act the same, in any way that I can tell. Whenever I do something, I get very tired of relatives chuckling⁺ at my behavior and saying something like "the nut doesn't fall very far from the tree."

QUESTIONS

1. Do you think you strongly resemble one of your parents, neither of them, or some composite⁺ of them both? Explain your answer.
2. Which of your parents are you closer to, emotionally, your mother or your father? Why do you think so?
3. What does the proverb at the end of the paragraph mean? In your case, how far has the nut fallen?

2. I hope that I won't ever become as serious as my parents. They never seem to have any fun in life. They can never relax and enjoy what we have. On vacation, they can't just chill out;⁺ they feel that they have to accomplish something, to the point where they get more tired than when they are at work. At home, there is always one more thing that needs to be done, no matter how much has already been finished. In their dealings with me, everything has to be presented in the guise⁺ of a moral lesson. On the few times that they join in some social occasion, they can't seem genuinely to enjoy themselves; instead, they feel compelled⁺ to eat and drink too much, as though they are compensating⁺ too hard for all the fun they are missing on a regular basis. I know that responsibility and self-discipline are important qualities, but even things which are good and necessary can be taken to bad, unneeded lengths.



Later, Son, I have to catch up on some work first.

QUESTIONS

1. What advice would you give the writer of the paragraph above?
2. What advice would you give to his parents?
3. "Moderation in all things — including moderation itself" may be a sensible goal, but how does one achieve it?

- **chuckle** : laugh quietly
- **chill out** : relax instead of feeling angry or nervous
- **guise** : way of looking or seeming that is not true or real
- **compelled** : forced
- **compensate** : provide (sth) good as a balance against (sth) bad

Mom : Have fun, Dear.

Brandon : I will, Mom. Don't worry.

Mom : And make sure you're home before 10:00.

Brandon : That's not fair. You told me to have fun, and then you said you want me to come home early!

Mom : If there isn't anything fun to do before ten, then I guess you should just stay home.

Brandon : No way! My friends are waiting for me.

Mom : And they probably all have a curfew, too.

Brandon : No! I'm the only one! Except Ralph, but his curfew is at midnight.

Mom : Then I think your friends have terribly permissive⁺ parents. You're too young to be out late at night. Sometimes I think even ten is too late.

Brandon : And I think my friends' parents trust their judgment and maturity,⁺ so they let them make up their own minds.

Mom : I trust your maturity, too — but within the limits of your age! You aren't an adult yet.

Brandon : I'll never be an adult if you keep treating me like a child.

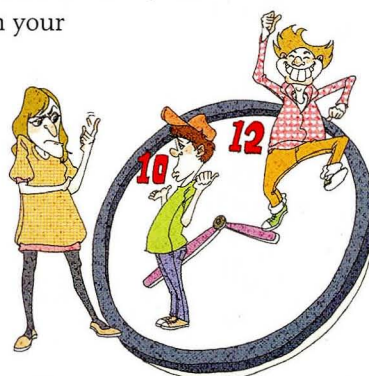
Mom : I'm not treating you like a child; I'm treating you like someone your age. If you were a child, I wouldn't let you go out on your own at all. And when you get older, I'll let you have more freedom. But not till then!

Brandon : But it's not fair!

Mom : Fair or not, that's the way it is. You have to be home by ten. Are you going to waste your time arguing with me, or are you going to spend it with your friends?

Brandon : I'm going!

Mom : Okay. Have fun!



Time is the enemy of fun.

QUESTIONS

1. Why does Brandon think his mother is being unfair?
2. What reasons does she give for her curfew?
3. In your case, what do you think a reasonable curfew would be? Or do you think any curfew at all is unreasonable? Justify⁺ your answer.

- **permissive** : giving people a lot of freedom

- **maturity** : state of being fully developed in the body or the mind

- **justify** : provide a good reason for the actions of (sb)

Not Too Much Praise, Please!

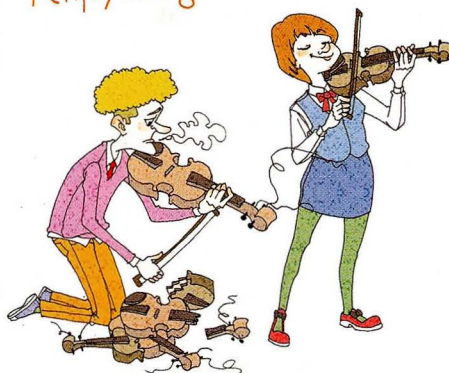
If you want children to grow up into the best possible versions of themselves, it's crucial⁺ to replace damaging words in your vocabulary with alternatives⁺ that help build character. Some of the things parents say to kids seem harmless or even constructive⁺ on the surface,⁺ but, experts say, they may hurt more than help.

For example, for years, we've been told that boosting⁺ a child's self-esteem is important to his or her success in life. But child experts are now learning that too much praise can backfire.⁺ Praiseaholic tykes⁺ who expect compliments⁺ at every turn may become teens who seek the same kind of approval from their friends who offer them a cigarette or an alcoholic drink. The implication of saying "You're the prettiest girl in class" is that you love her only because she is beautiful; talking about the goal she achieved but not her overall⁺ effort indicates that you care only about her accomplishments, not her overall effort. And this attitude carries over⁺ into the classroom.

At Columbia University in New York, social psychologist Carol Dweck tested the effects of overpraise on 400 fifth graders. She found that kids who were praised for "trying hard" did better on tests and were more likely to take on difficult assignments than those lauded⁺ for being "smart."

"Praising attributes⁺ or abilities makes a false promise that success will come to you because you have that trait,⁺ and it devalues⁺ effort, so children are afraid to take on challenges," says Dweck. "They figure they'd better quit while they're ahead."

*I don't care if my playing is faulty,
I enjoy doing it. Like speaking English!*



*I'm going to play perfectly,
no matter how many
fiddles I have to break.*

QUESTIONS

1. When do your parents praise you? When do they nag you?
2. Which do you think motivates you more, compliments or complaints?
3. Do you like the challenge of learning new things, or do you prefer to improve on skills you've already acquired?
4. Have you tried to do something new recently? In your opinion, to what degree did you master it?
5. What have you failed at? Why?

- > **crucial** : important
- > **alternative** : (sth) that can be chosen instead of (sth) else
- > **constructive** : helping to develop or improving (sth)
- > **on the surface** : to all outward appearances
- > **boost** : increase
- > **backfire** : have the opposite result of what was desired or expected
- > **tyke** : small child
- > **compliment** : remark that says (sth) good about (sb/sth)
- > **overall** : including or considering everything
- > **carry over** : continue to exist in another place
- > **lauded** : praised
- > **attribute** : quality or feature
- > **trait** : particular quality in (sb's) character
- > **devalue** : make (sth) seem less important or valuable
- > **faulty** : having a mistake, fault, or weakness; imperfect