USE OF ENGLISH

Word formation

Friends or contacts?

I find it (1) _____ that social media sites use the word 'friends' instead of the more neutral 'contacts'. To me, a friend is a person you can turn to in difficult times, who will be (2) _____ when you have problems. Also, your friends should (3) _____ live reasonably close so that they can help out in a crisis. I suppose a social media contact could (4) _____ care about you, but I usually trust people I know in real life much more. I am fine chatting online with people who share the same interests – in my case, ballroom dancing – as it can be difficult in real life to find friends who share my (5) _____ for my hobby. I am still (6) _____ and hoping to meet someone in the future but I have not seriously considered online dating. For one thing, my family's (7) _____ would put me off.

FRUSTRATE

SUPPORT

IDEAL

GENUINE

ENTHUSE
MARRY

APPROVE

The average number of children per woman has now **(0)** _____ *shrunk* _____ to under two. This is **(1)** _____ due to the fact that the number of women who remain **(2)** _____ has risen to one in five. In much of the world, **(3)** _____ is now a choice for women and many prefer to opt out. On the other end of the spectrum, there are some families in Britain who go to the other extreme, most **(4)** _____ the Radford family from Morecambe, Lancashire, who welcomed their 21st child last month. Like some other large families, usually from the US, the Radfords have their own **(5)** _____ TV show, which is currently called *21 Kids and Counting*. The show reveals a normal, loving family full of humour, kindness and **(6)** _____ . All the children seem to get on very well together with the older ones helping the younger ones in a selfless manner. It is shocking to learn, however, that some people can be very **(7)** _____ when it comes to large families. Parents Sue and Noel have been on the receiving end of some very nasty comments. In my view, this behaviour shows those people's **(8)** _____ .

SHRINK
LARGE
CHILD
REPRODUCE

NOTE

REAL

GENEROUS

JUDGE

SECURE