Part 2: Reading and Writing

Generation Gaps in the Workplace

The Generation gap is a term popularized in the West during the 1960s, a time when a **gulf between** young people and their parents opened up. These differences extended to music, fashion, and politics. Being aware of generational differences can help you **anticipate** miscommunications and avoid problems in the workplace and in social settings.

Experts say you should keep in mind these **patterns** when communicating across generations:

Traditionalists (born 1922-1943) These workers place a lot of value on **formality** and *the top-down* chain of command. Respect is also important. Traditionalists appreciate formal titles instead of first names and scheduling meetings rather than have colleagues *drop in*.

Baby boomers (born 1943-1960) Baby boomers are the largest generation of workers and they are generally willing to **sacrifice** for success. **Recognition** is important to boomers and they prefer more personable communication. They also value respect and order.

Generation X (born 1960-1980) A higher divorce rate combined with an increase in working mothers meant many Xers grew up being alone often. Xers tend to be **skeptical**, highly individual workers who value a work/life balance. Most would rather be rewarded with extra *time off* than a **promotion**.

Millenials (born 1980-2001) Raised by young boomers and older Xers, the first members of this group are just entering the workforce. Millenials are highly **collaborative** and optimistic. They share Xers' **emphasis** on work/life balance and are the most comfortable using new technologies.

Gen Z (born 2001-2020) is part of a **generation** that is global, social, visual and technological. They are the most connected, educated and sophisticated **generation** ever. They are the up-agers, with influence beyond their years. They are the tweens, the teens, the youth and young adults of our global society.

A. Comparing Generations

Look for facts and supportive information about American society to complete the following chart. Write one example for each one. If any did not exist, just write an X.

	Traditionalists born 1922-1943	Baby boomers born 1943-1960	Generation X Born 1960-1980	Millenials 1980-2001	Generation Z Born 2001-2020
Influencing Events					
Personality/ Characteristics					
Music and Artist					
Internet					
Computer					

B. Choose two of them and write a 5 sentences paragraph using two repeated comparatives and 3 double comparative to describe trends.

YOU'RE A CHILD OF THE...

Are you a child of the: '60s, '70s, '80s, '90s, or 2000's?

Did you grow up with mainframes?

Yes

Were you an early adopter?

Yes

You are a child of the '60s

You grew up with the very first video game console (the Brown Box), the first lasers, the first light emitting diodes (LEDs), and the first computer mouse.

No

Did you use BBS + 14.4 Kbps?

Yes

With a MacIntosh computer?

No

You are a child of the '70s

You grew up with disco, the new color TV, the Apple® II computer, and the Atari® 2600.

Yes

No

Did you use Compuserve?

Yes

No

Did you use AOL?

Yes

You are a child of the '80s

You discovered the wonder of: the microwave, the VCR, the Nintendo® NES, the Sony® Walkman, and the CD player. Chances are, you may have even had a Teddy Ruxpin.

Did you ever hear, "Get off the Internet! I need to use the phone."?

No

Which was more popular when you were a teenager?

MySpace

Yes

Facebook

You are a child of the '90s

You discovered the wonder of: the cell phone, the Nintendo Gameboy®, the laptop computer, digital pets like Tamagotchi® and Nano Pets®, and Power Wheels®.

Was your first connection to the Internet "high speed"?

You are a child of the 2000s

You grew up with USB flash drives, Flip video cameras, DVD players, Nintendo Wii®, DVR, and tons of other great tech gadgets.

Yes

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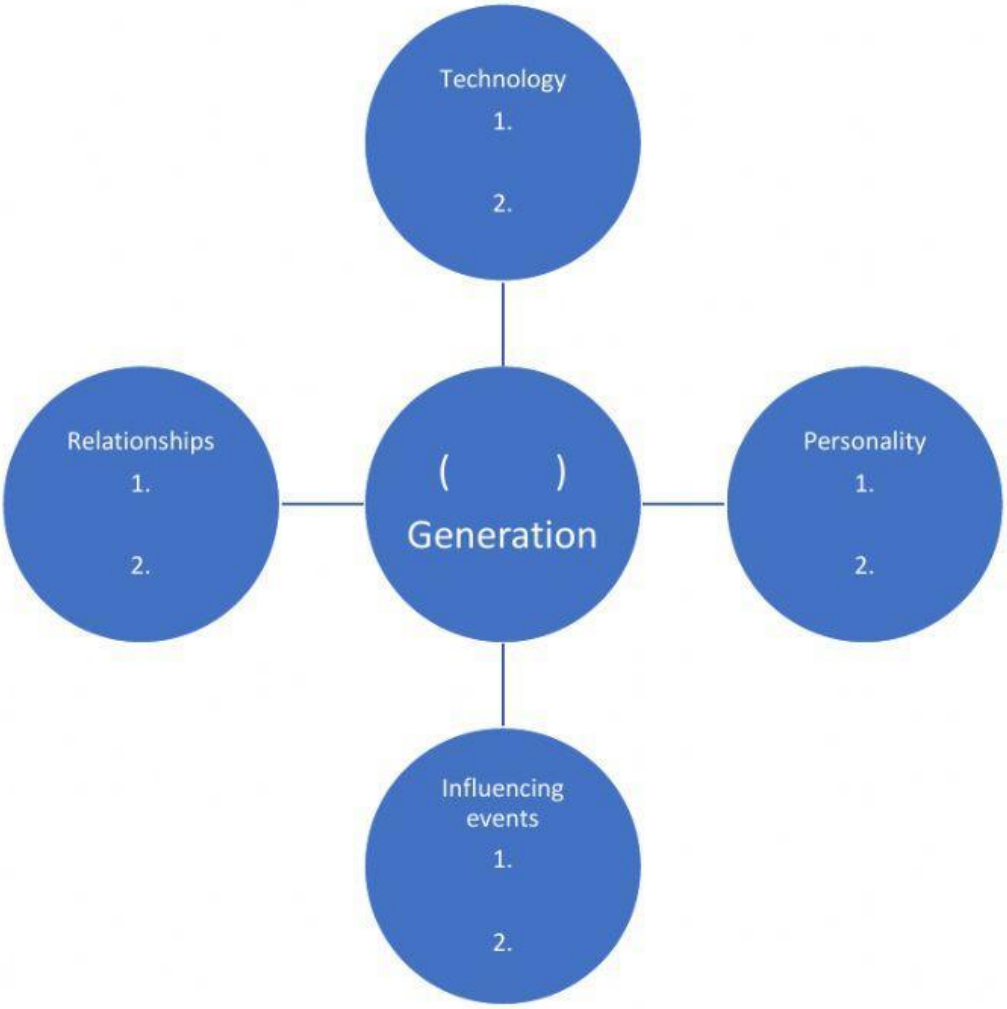
C. Based on the previous diagram, complete the following graph with your generation time. Write two examples in each element to describe your generation.



D. Family trends refer to some changes in a particular way. Changes can affect traditional perspectives bringing something new. Look at the following video and explain 3 trends (Cause and effect).

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9RMVIO4nmPc

MODERN FAMILY TRENDS
1.
2.
3.