

Negotiate with Your Parents!

There's a party tonight and you want to stay out late.
Here's a typical conversation you might have:

- Girl Dad, what time do I have to be in tonight?
Dad Not too late! Ask your mother ...
Girl Mum, can I stay at the party until twelve o'clock? Jane doesn't have to be home until then. I asked Dad and he said it's fine.
Mum No way. You must be home by eleven! That's late enough.
Girl Oh, Mum, it's not fair! I'll look stupid if I have to go home so early. Do I have to leave at eleven?
Mum You have to be here by eleven!
Girl But I won't have time for anything if I have to leave so early!
Mum And what exactly do you need time for?
Girl Oh, Mum ... pleeeeeease! I'll do anything! I promise I'll tidy my room and do the vacuuming for a whole month! I'll do anything you say!
Mum No, and that's my final word.
Girl But why?
Mum Because I say so!

How to get your own way!

Follow these rules:

- 1 The first few times you want to stay out late ... don't! You have to build their trust slowly.
- 2 Talk to your parents when you get home. Tell them about your evening (well, not everything ...).
- 3 Introduce your friends. (Choose the most normal friends you've got!)
- 4 Organize your transport home. Then they won't worry so much.

Good luck!



8 WORDS IN CONTEXT Match the phrases with the correct meaning. How do you say them in your language?

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| 1 to be in | a) it isn't reasonable |
| 2 no way | b) my decision is final |
| 3 it's not fair | c) definitely not |
| 4 because I say so | d) to arrive home |
| 5 to get your own way | e) to achieve your objectives |

9 Are these sentences true or false? Find evidence in the text.

- 1 The girl wants to have a party at home.
- 2 First she talks to her mum.
- 3 The girl asks if she can come home at midnight.
- 4 Her mum says she must be home by eleven o'clock.
- 5 The girl promises to do the ironing for a month.
- 6 The author says you should never introduce your friends to your parents.

10 Your voice Work in pairs. Read the rules again and ask and answer the questions.

- 1 Which rules do you think are useful?
- 2 Which rules do you follow?



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