(b) *Choose the most suitable verb from the box to fit in each gap and change the form or tense if necessary.*

resist	yield	gratify	foster	refine
dabble	involve	yearn	impart	exclude
compromise	establish	ostracise	become	instill

Never is it more important to fit in than during adolescence, that critical time of development when a young person's character is **1.** _____ and they find their place in the world. To be **2.** _____ or socially **3.** _____ is, in fact, probably the worst nightmare for most teens, and the majority will do anything to avoid it, even if that means **4.** _____ their own beliefs, **5.** _____ to peer pressure and doing things they normally would never dream of. But it is in the making of such compromises that a teen's life can be destroyed in an instant. Indeed, it is not at all uncommon for an otherwise perfectly decent young lad or lass to fall in with the wrong crowd and find themselves caught up in all sorts of trouble. Depending on how impressionable a teen is, and the extent to which they **6.** _____ for acceptance, there is no telling what they will do in their efforts to gain same, from **7.** _____ with drugs to **8.** _____ themselves in criminal activities. The key determining factor in **9.** _____ the likelihood of whether a young person will go off the rails is not simply their background as one might expect. It is, in fact, the extent to which their parents have **10.** _____ confidence and a sense of self-worth in them as they have grown up. A child who is at ease in their own skin and confident in who and what they represent as a person is far less likely to put themselves in a position where they will be compromising their morals simply to **11.** _____ a few peers. In short, you can give a child the best education money can buy and **12.** _____ on them all the moral virtues and wisdom you wish, but this will count for nothing unless you also **13.** _____ in them an appreciation of their own value as an individual. Only then will they be able to **14.** _____ the pressure from their peers and the natural inclination to try to **15.** _____ popular and be considered 'cool' regardless of the consequences.

Teen Mischief-making *Match the verbs in **Column A** with the phrases in **Column B**.*

Column A	Answer	Column B
(a) falling		**(i)** around
(b) playing		**(ii)** with drugs
(c) dabbling		**(iii)** up to no good
(d) rebelling		**(iv)** against authority
(e) getting		**(v)** a run in with the law
(f) getting		**(vi)** the class
(g) getting/having		**(vii)** a criminal record
(h) ganging		**(viii)** one over on your peers
(i) spreading		**(ix)** rash decisions
(j) pulling		**(x)** for attention
(k) making		**(xi)** no thought for anyone
(l) acting		**(xii)** on the spur of the moment
(m) sparing		**(xiii)** a strop
(n) flunking		**(xiv)** up on one another
(o) vying		**(xv)** malicious rumours
(p) flouting		**(xvi)** the rules
(q) having		**(xvii)** truant
(r) sleeping		**(xviii)** in with the wrong crowd

Now use a number of the phrases above to fill in the gaps. You will not need to use all of them, and nor will you have to change the verb form or tense for the correct answers.

1. I am _____ and it's looking very likely that I'll have to repeat.
2. No doubt that 'angel' of ours is _____ again with those mischievous friends of his.
3. Why must you persist in _____? One of these days you will get caught and wind up in serious trouble.
4. If I catch your son _____ again, Mrs White, he will automatically be expelled; his attendance record is already appalling.
5. Alex and Paula are always _____ ; I have to be very careful to devote equal time to them both so as not to be accused of favouritism.

sachphotos.com
LIVEWORKSHEETS