

ATYPICAL

Episode 1 – Worksheet

1. GETTING STARTED

A. What do you think?

Look at the title **ATYPICAL**.

What do you think it means?

- ☐ different from what is usual
- ☐ very typical
- ☐ strange or unusual
- ☐ similar to everyone else

Why do you think this title was chosen for the series?

2. MEET THE CHARACTERS

While watching Episode 1, complete the table.

Character	Who is he/she?	3 adjectives
Sam		
Elsa		
Doug		
Casey		
Julia		
Evan		

Useful adjectives

intelligent – independent – protective – loving – funny – shy – determined – anxious – caring – frustrated – confident – insecure – controlling – responsible – sensitive – curious

3. WHO IS SAM?

Complete the sentences about Sam.

- Sam is a _____-year-old teenager.
- Sam is on the _____ spectrum.
- Sam is very interested in _____.
- Sam has a special interest in _____.
- Sam wants to become more _____.
- Sam's parents are sometimes worried about his ability to _____.
- Sam decides that he wants to start _____.

4. TRUE OR FALSE?

Watch carefully and decide whether the statements are **True (T)** or **False (F)**.

Statement	T	F
1. Sam is interested in Antarctica and penguins.	☐	☐
2. Sam wants to have more independence.	☐	☐

Statement**T F**

- | | |
|--|---|
| 3. Elsa thinks Sam should never date. | ☐ ☐ |
| 4. Doug always feels comfortable talking about Sam's future. | ☐ ☐ |
| 5. Casey is Sam's younger sister. | ☐ ☐ |
| 6. Sam starts thinking about dating. | ☐ ☐ |
| 7. Julia is Sam's therapist. | ☐ ☐ |
| 8. Sam's family always agrees about how to support him. | ☐ ☐ |
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5. SAM'S FAMILY**A. Match the characters with their relationship to Sam.**

- | | |
|----------|----------------------|
| 1. Elsa | a. Sam's sister |
| 2. Doug | b. Sam's mother |
| 3. Casey | c. Sam's therapist |
| 4. Julia | d. Casey's boyfriend |
| 5. Evan | e. Sam's father |

B. Family relationships

Complete the sentences.

protective – worried – supportive – frustrated – independent – difficult

1. Elsa is very _____ of Sam.
 2. Doug sometimes feels _____ because he doesn't know how to help Sam.
 3. Sam wants to become more _____.
 4. Sam's family can be _____ at times because they have different opinions.
 5. Elsa and Doug are often _____ about Sam's safety.
-

6. TEENAGE PROBLEMS

Episode 1 presents several issues that are common during adolescence.

Match the problem with the example.

Problem**Example**

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1. Independence | a. Sam wants to make his own decisions. |
| 2. Dating | b. A teenager wants to have a romantic relationship. |
| 3. Family conflict | c. Parents and children disagree. |
| 4. Peer relationships | d. Teenagers worry about friends and acceptance. |
| 5. Growing up | e. Young people have to make new decisions and take responsibility. |
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7. WHICH PROBLEMS CAN YOU SEE IN EPISODE 1?

Choose **three** issues that are important in the episode.

- ☐ independence
- ☐ dating
- ☐ family expectations
- ☐ friendship
- ☐ communication

- ☐ overprotective parents
 - ☐ feeling different
 - ☐ growing up
 - ☐ relationships
 - ☐ accepting differences
-

8. SAM'S PERSONALITY

Choose **five adjectives** that describe Sam.

intelligent – shy – curious – independent – sensitive – funny – determined – confident – insecure – brave – friendly – unusual

My choices:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Explain your choices.

Sam is _____ because...

Sam is _____ because...

10. THINK ABOUT IT

Answer in complete sentences.

1. Why does Sam want to become more independent?

2. Why are Sam's parents worried about him?

3. Do you think Sam's parents sometimes protect him too much?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I'm not sure

Why?

4. Why is dating an important issue for Sam?

5. Do you think teenagers need more independence as they grow older?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Explain your opinion.

12. THE STORY – PUT IT IN ORDER

Number the events from **1–8** in the correct order.

- ☐ Sam talks about wanting to date.
- ☐ We learn about Sam's interest in penguins.
- ☐ Sam's family discusses his independence.
- ☐ Sam talks to Julia about his feelings.
- ☐ Casey is introduced as Sam's sister.
- ☐ Sam begins thinking seriously about relationships.
- ☐ We see how Sam's parents try to protect him.
- ☐ Sam decides that he wants to take a step towards greater independence.

13. SUMMARISE THE EPISODE

Complete the summary using the words in the box.

independence – family – dating – penguins – teenager – parents – relationships – autism

Atypical introduces **Sam**, a teenage boy with _____. Sam has a strong interest in _____ and wants to become more independent.

His _____ are very protective of him, but Sam wants to make more decisions for himself.

In Episode 1, Sam becomes interested in _____ and starts thinking about romantic _____.

The episode explores the relationship between Sam and his _____ and shows some of the challenges of growing up as a _____.
