

Writing: an article

7 Read Georgina's email to an online teen magazine. Choose the correct answer (a, b or c).

Georgina is worried about Michelle because:

- a they aren't friends anymore.
- b she's become thin and unhappy.
- c she never does her homework.

I'm really worried about my best friend, Michelle. She's completely changed recently. Before, she was really cheerful and happy, but now she seems sad. In the past, we talked a lot about everything, but we haven't had a good conversation for months. However, the worst thing is that she's getting really thin and she hasn't got any energy. She has got bad marks in school this term, too. Although she eats at lunchtime, she always leaves a lot of food on her plate. I have never seen her eat anything at break-time. I've been to her house for tea a few times. Even though Michelle eats her meal, she takes a long time to finish it. She usually finishes her food alone, while everyone else is watching television in the living room. What should I do? Should I talk to her parents? Georgina

8 Match Georgina's letter with the best reply (a, b or c).

Your friend needs to do more sport. She isn't very healthy and this is why she doesn't eat much. You should take her running or swimming. Then you should go to a fast food restaurant and have a hamburger and chips. I'm sure she will enjoy it.

Your friend probably has a problem that she is keeping secret. Maybe she has problems at home or with a boyfriend. You should talk to her. Show that you are interested in her. You should also tell her parents that she doesn't eat at school. Perhaps she doesn't like school meals.

Your friend has a serious eating disorder and she needs help. However, it's not easy to help someone like her. You need to be very careful. You shouldn't try to talk to her yourself – she needs expert help. I think you should talk to your teacher. He or she will know what to do.

9 Choose the correct expression or expressions in each sentence.

- 1 The friends talked a lot in the past. *Although / Even though / However*, it's several months since they last had a good conversation.
- 2 *Although / Even though / However* Michelle buys food at lunchtime, she always leaves a lot on her plate.

3 At home Michelle always eats her evening meal. *Although / Even though / However*, she takes a long time to finish it.

4 Georgina wants to help Michelle, *although / even though / however* it's not easy to help somebody with an eating disorder.

5 *Although / Even though / However* Georgina wants to talk to Michelle about her problem, she is not sure that this is the best thing to do.

10 Put the phrases (a–f) in the correct order in the sentences (1–6) to complete the story.

1 I'm really worried about my little brother ...

2 They laugh at him in the playground ...

3 Although they call him horrible names ...

4 Mum gives him dinner money every morning ...

5 Although I've asked him about the boys many times ...

6 I don't know what to do. ...

a but I think the bullies steal it – he doesn't buy food at lunchtime.

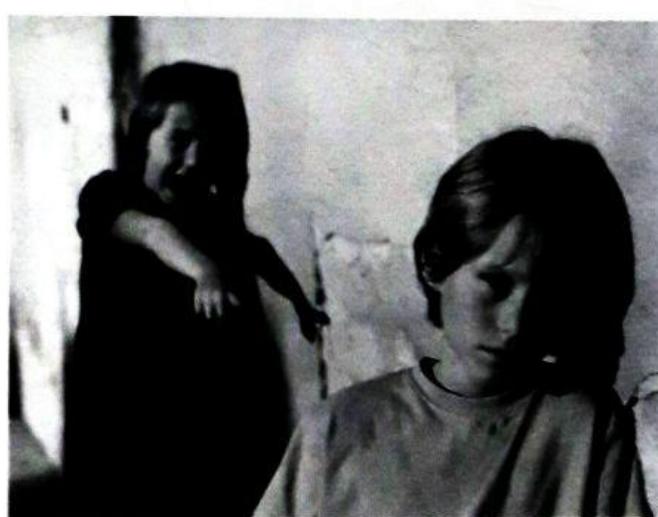
b because I think some older boys are bullying him.

c and push him in the corridors.

d I've never seen him cry.

e Should I talk to his teacher?

f he won't ever talk to me about them.



11 Write a letter to a problem page about your brother. Use the ideas in Exercise 10. Add *although, even though* and *however*. Use Georgina's letter in Exercise 7 to help you.