



# FRIENDS OR COMPETITORS?



Sibling rivalry (6) \_\_\_\_\_ around long before parents ever turned to psychologists to understand the problem. In the fairy tale of Cinderella, for example, her sisters treat her badly out of jealousy. But in (7) \_\_\_\_\_ what can parents do to prevent a similar occurrence in their home? Firstly, they should avoid making comparisons between their children. A parent shouldn't say things like, '(8) \_\_\_\_\_ the age of four, your brother had learnt to tie his laces' or 'By the time your sister went to school, she (9) \_\_\_\_\_ for years'.

Also, constantly praising one child for some accomplishment will inevitably create feelings of envy in the other. Often the effect of this praise only becomes evident later in life, and, almost always, parents will say they had no idea they (10) \_\_\_\_\_ any harm. So, the next time your children quarrel, think carefully how to handle the situation.

6. A. was being

B. used to be

C. had been

D. would be

7. A. real

B. really

C. realistic

D. reality

8. A. When

B. By

C. As soon as

D. By the time

9. A. had been reading

B. was reading

C. used to read

D. had read

10. A. didn't do

B. used to do

C. would do

D. were doing