

ENGLISH 10. UNIT 1. EXTRA READING

Exercise 1. Choose the word or phrase among A, B, C or D that best fits the blank space in the following passage.

The United States has many different types of families. While most American families traditionally (1)..... of a father, mother and one or more children, 22 percent of all American families are headed by one parent, usually a woman. In a (2) families in the United States, there are no children. These (3)..... couples may believe that they would not make good parents; they may want freedom from the responsibilities of child rearing, (4) they are not physically able to have children. Other families in the United States have one adult who is a stepparent. A stepmother or stepfather is a person who joins a family by marrying a father or mother. Americans tolerate and accept these different types of families. In the United States, people have the right to privacy and Americans do not believe in telling other Americans what type of family group they must belong to. They respect each other's choices regarding family groups. Families are very important (5)..... Americans.

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|----------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1. A. consist | B. consisting | C. to consist | D. consisted |
| 2. A. little | B. few | C. lot | D. plenty |
| 3. A. childish | B. childlike | C. childless | D. childhood |
| 4. A. so | B. or | C. but | D. and |
| 5. A. for | B. of | C. in | D. to |

Exercise 2. Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions.

The family in Britain is changing. The once typical British family headed by two parents has undergone substantial changes during the twentieth century. In particular there has been a rise in the number of single-person households, **which** increased from 18 to 29 per cent of all households between 1971 and 2002. By the year 2020, it is estimated that there will be more single people than married people. Fifty years ago, this would have been socially unacceptable in Britain.

In the past, people got married and stayed married. Divorce was very difficult, expensive and took a long time. Today, people's views on marriage are changing. Many couples, mostly in their twenties or thirties, live together (cohabit) without getting married. Only about 60% of these couples will eventually get married.

In the past, people married before they had children, but now about 40% of children in Britain are born to unmarried cohabiting parents. In 2000, around a quarter of unmarried people between the ages of 16 and 59 were cohabiting in Great Britain. Cohabiting couples are also starting families without first being married. Before 1960 this was very unusual, but in 2001 around 23 per cent of births in the UK were to cohabiting couples.

People are generally getting married at a later age now and many women do not want to have children immediately. They prefer to concentrate on their jobs and **put off** having a baby until late thirties.

The number of single-parent families is increasing. This is mainly due to more marriages ending in divorce, but some women are also choosing to have children as lone parents without being married.

1. Which of the following could be the best title for the passage?
 - A. Changing Values and Norms of the British Family
 - B. Changes in Marriage among British Young Generations
 - C. Changing Insights into and Ideas of the British Family
 - D. Changes in Viewpoints and Lifestyles of British Couples
2. The word "**which**" in the passage refers to _____.
 - A. the family in Britain
 - B. substantial changes
 - C. typical British family
 - D. single-parent households
3. Which of the following is NOT true according to the passage?
 - A. In the past, British people had to pay a lot if they wanted to get divorced.
 - B. Half of the children in Britain now are born to unmarried couples.
 - C. Women in Britain now do not want to have children right after marriage.
 - D. There are more and more single-parent families in Britain these days.
4. The phrase "**put off**" in the passage mostly means _____.
 - A. do not want
 - B. delay
 - C. start
 - D. do not intend
5. Which of the following best describes the overall tone of the passage?
 - A. informative
 - B. positive
 - C. negative
 - D. predictive