



PROBLEMS OF TEENAGERS

Read the text.

There are many problems that young people have to face when they stop being children. At this age all feelings and emotions are very strong, all problems seem very important.

There are two types of problems - personal problems and the problems the whole **generation** has to face.

Personal problems can look silly and unimportant to the grown-ups. The first and terrible thing is **misunderstanding** from the dearest people - from the parents. They do not understand why you need to buy things you want to buy, listen to this type of music or spend most of your **spare time** with your friends. You do not want to hurt their feelings but they should try to understand you.

The same misunderstanding we face sometimes from the side of the teachers. They think that **youth** is given for studying. But a person who only studies is **dull**. Some teachers do not understand that youth is the time for us to learn about people and about ourselves, to play and try things. They try to **keep us away** from all «dangers» which there are in our lives. But teenagers need that adults take them seriously and give them a friendly hand but not a punishment.

Because parents and teachers can't take teenagers seriously, they form their own **social groups**, which are called subcultures. Teens' subculture is a part of culture and it has many features - clothes, styles of favorite music, way of life, **opinions** about life, future and education. Many groups of teenagers follow a certain fashion which dictates what to wear (like jeans, army boots, bandanas), **jewellery** (like earrings for boys), certain hairdos (ponytail, shaved heads, **died hair**), sometimes certain colours.

Some grown-ups think that to have a boyfriend or a girlfriend at school is a **deadly sin**. I do not think so. There are many films and books about love, and the main characters are



usually young. I think, school is the right time to find a boyfriend or a girlfriend, because studying is difficult and they can **support each other**. It is important to have a person who really understands you. There can also be a problem, if your **peers** (classmates, for example) do not understand you.

The problem of homework is also very serious. It takes much time and I am always busy doing it. I have no time for my hobbies.



The problem of money is important as well. I think, young people need to have **pocket money** for buying books, pens, ice-cream and so on. But I do not think it is a good idea **to beg** parents to give me some money. If I find **a part-time job**, they will say it **distracts** me from studies. If I ask for money they say they spend too much on my school, clothes and other things.



Sometimes the problem of fashion appears. My parents try to buy me clothes to their taste. Sometimes that's all right, but sometimes I want something more fashionable, especially for summer. Then we can **argue** for hours. It is interesting that in the question of clothes my mother is on my side, but, in the question of books and music my father supports me against mummy.

Young people have many health problems. Many of us want to look older and more **independent**. They do silly things. The girls make up as Red Indians on the war-path. They try to be fashionable-looking and lose their style and charm. The boys try to be **tough**, they are **self-assured** and **insensible**. They lose their personality, **pretending** to be other people to seem cooler. I think that is terrible.

1. Find red words in the text which mean:

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|--|---|-------|
| 1) a crime before the God | = | _____ |
| 2) a group of people who are born and live at the same time period | = | _____ |
| 3) a job for 3-4 hours every day (not all day) | = | _____ |
| 4) boring | = | _____ |
| 5) children of your group (classmates, groupmates, friends) | = | _____ |

6) coloured hair	=	_____
7) disagree	=	_____
8) feeling nothing	=	_____
9) free time	=	_____
10) group of people with common interests	=	_____
11) help each other	=	_____
12) make someone believe that it's really you	=	_____
13) money for everyday things	=	_____
14) rings, earrings, bracelets	=	_____
15) stop from doing something	=	_____
16) strong, hard to break (not physically)	=	_____
17) sure in yourself	=	_____
18) to ask for something very strongly	=	_____
19) to save	=	_____
20) what you think	=	_____
21) when you can decide what you want to do yourself and you don't have to ask your parents	=	_____
22) when you can't understand somebody correctly	=	_____
23) young age before being an adult	=	_____

2. Answer the question

1. Do you agree with the author that teenagers often pretend because they want to seem cooler than they really are? Do you do this? How?

2. Do you have any of these problems in the text? Which of them?

How you solve (решать) them?