

## PART I: READING COMPREHENSION (100 points)

Read the article and answer the questions that follow.

### Generation Gap

According to the results of a survey in USA WEEKEND Magazine, there isn't really a generation gap. The magazine's "Teens & Parents" survey shows that today's generation of young people generally get along well with their parents and appreciate the way they're being raised. Most feel that  
5 their parents understand them, and they believe their parents consider family as the No. 1 priority in their lives. Although more than a third of teens have something in their rooms they would like to keep secret from their parents, it is usually nothing more harmful than a diary or a CD.

10 Such results may seem surprising in the context of the violent events that people hear about in the media. Maybe because of the things they hear, parents worry that their own kids might get out of control once they reach the teenage years. However, the facts in the survey should make us feel better. The survey shows us that today's teens are loving and  
15 sensible. They are certainly happier than the angry people in the teenage stereotypes we all know about. True, some teenagers are very angry, and we need to recognize their needs, but the great majority of teens are not like that at all.

In contrast to some stereotypes, most teens believe they must be  
20 understanding about differences among individuals. Many of them volunteer for community service with disadvantaged people. When they talk about themselves, their friends and their families, they sound positive and proud. Generally, these are very nice kids.

25 Is this spirit of harmony a change from the past? Only a generation ago, parent-child relations were described as the "generation gap". Yet even then, things were not so bad. Most kids in the 1960s and 1970s shared their parents' basic values.

Perhaps, however, it is true that American families are growing closer at the beginning of this new millennium. Perhaps there is less to fight about, and the dangers of drug abuse and other unacceptable behavior are now well known. Perhaps, compared to the impersonal world outside the home, a young person's family is like a friendly shelter, not a prison. And perhaps parents are acting more like parents than they did 20 or 30 years ago.

## Questions

1. Put an X by the TWO correct answers.

According to lines 1-7, what did the survey find out about teenagers?

- ..... a. They get along well with their parents.
- ..... b. They appreciate good CDs.
- ..... c. They keep secrets from their parents.
- ..... d. They stay in their rooms.
- ..... e. They like the way their parents raise them.

..... / 20 points

2. What was the most important finding in the survey? (lines 1-7)

ANSWER: .....

..... / 10 points

3. According to paragraph two (lines 8-14), parents hear things that make them worry about their own kids. What kind of things do they hear?

ANSWER: .....

..... / 10 points

4. Put an X by the correct answer.

What is the stereotype referred to in lines 8-14?

- ..... a. Teens are people who recognize their needs.
- ..... b. Teens are loving and sensible.
- ..... c. Teens are much happier than we think.
- ..... d. Teens are angry people.

..... / 10 points

5. Put an X by the correct answer.

What is the main subject of paragraph three? (lines 15-18)

- ..... a. Differences between teens.
- ..... b. Stereotypes about teens.
- ..... c. The positive attitude of teens to others.
- .....d. Volunteering for disadvantaged people.

..... / 10 points

6. Complete the sentence according to lines 19-21.

Even in the past, the "generation gap" was .....

...../ 10 points

7. a. Write, YES or NO, according to the last paragraph.

According to the writer, one reason why American families are closer is that the world is an unfriendly place. ....

- b. Copy the phrase that helped you answer.

.....

..... / 20 points

8. In what way, according to the writer, are parents today different than they were a generation ago?

ANSWER: .....

..... / 10 points