

Who do you think...?

- 1 had a more eccentric hairstyle
- 2 admired her sister
- 3 didn't want to be with her sister
- 4 followed her sister everywhere
- 5 tried to compete with her sister
- 6 wasn't a good student
- 7 told her parents when her sister did something wrong
- 8 used to hurt her sister physically
- 9 was jealous of her sister
- 10 always defended the other sister

c Now read the article and check your answers.

d Look at the highlighted words and phrases. In pairs, choose the right meaning, a or b.

- 1 a boring  
b fashionable
- 2 a children  
b adults
- 3 a age difference  
b the time they weren't together
- 4 a become friends again  
b stop speaking
- 5 a kiss  
b hurt with your fingers
- 6 a say bad things about  
b say good things about
- 7 a we got on very well  
b we got on very badly
- 8 a ask for help  
b say that somebody is responsible for something bad

## We are family...

### Two sisters tell the truth about themselves – and each other...

Wendy Wilson and her older sister Carnie are the daughters of the Beach Boys founder, Brian Wilson. They formed the band Wilson Philips (with the daughter of Michelle Philips of The Mamas and Papas) and their first album was a worldwide hit. Today they are both married and live in Los Angeles. Here they talk about their relationship.



### Wendy, the younger sister says:

I always thought Carnie was really cool. Especially when she was a teenager and had bright red spiky hair. But, like most older sisters, she wasn't at all interested in her younger sister. I desperately wanted to be with her and her friends, and sometimes I used to follow them, but she hated that.

When we were kids we both had a lot of material things like toys and clothes, but even then we knew that Mom and Dad weren't happy. We used to talk about it all the time, and after a while they separated and we stayed with my Mom. We didn't see Dad for quite a few years, which really hurt us. But it's also the thing that brought me and Carnie closer together. When I was 16 or 17 the one and a half year age gap between us didn't matter any more, and we started to get on with each other and to write songs together.

Being in a band – or working at anything – with a member of your family can be difficult, but it also has advantages. If we have a big argument about a song, after a while we remember that we are sisters and we make it up. Nothing is going to stop us from being sisters.



**Carnie, the  
older sister  
says:**

I sometimes think that poor Wendy has spent all her life competing with me. She was a very quiet, shy child, while I was incredibly talkative and demanding – I was awful! I wasn't interested in studying, all I wanted to do was go to parties, and Wendy used to tell my parents. So I was horrible to her – I used to <sup>5</sup>pinch her and bite her.

I was very jealous of Wendy also because she was more attractive than me. But she always defended me when other people <sup>6</sup>criticized me, and sometimes it seemed as if she was the older sister and I was the younger one. Although we were complete opposites, <sup>7</sup>we were also very close and had a lot of fun together. We still do.

I think I suffered a lot because of my father leaving us when we were small, but Wendy helped me to understand that Dad loved us too, but in a different way. She also taught me that you can't <sup>8</sup>blame other people for your problems, you have to look at yourself.



- b **1.11** Listen to a psychologist talking about the influence your position in the family has on your personality. Complete the chart by writing four more adjectives of personality in each column.

| Oldest children       | Middle children    | Youngest children | Only children |
|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| <i>self-confident</i> | <i>independent</i> | <i>charming</i>   | <i>spoilt</i> |
|                       |                    |                   |               |
|                       |                    |                   |               |
|                       |                    |                   |               |
|                       |                    |                   |               |

- c Compare with a partner. Then listen to the four sections again and check your answers. Can you remember any more details?
- d Look at the completed chart above. In pairs, say
- if you think it is true for you – if not, why not.
  - if you think it is true for your brothers and sisters or your friends