

UNIT 1: FAMILY LIFE – READING & WRITING

I. Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D to indicate the correct word or phrase that best fits each of the numbered blanks.

A recent study shows that an unequal share of household chores is still the norm in many households, (1) _____ the fact that many more women now have jobs. In a survey of 1,256 people (2) _____ between 18 and 65, men said they contributed an average of 37 per cent of the total housework, while the women (3) _____ their share to be nearly double that, at 70 per cent. This ratio was not affected by (4) _____ the woman was working or not.

When they were asked what they thought was a fair division of labour, women with jobs felt that housework should (5) _____ shared equally between male and female partners. Women who did not work outside the home were satisfied to perform 80 per cent - the majority of housework - if their husbands did the (6) _____. Research has shown that if levels increase beyond these percentages, women become unhappy and anxious, and feel they are (7) _____.

After marriage, a woman is reported to increase her household workload (8) _____ 14 hours per week, but for men (9) _____ amount is just 90 minutes. So the division of labour becomes unbalanced, (10) _____ the man's share increases much less than the woman's. It is the inequality and (11) _____ of respect, not the actual number of hours, which leads to (12) _____ and depression. The research even (13) _____ housework as thankless and unfulfilling.

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|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Question 1: | A. in spite | B. despite | C. although | D. even |
| Question 2: | A. aged | B. aging | C. age | D. ages |
| Question 3: | A. guessed | B. judged | C. estimated | D. valued |
| Question 4: | A. what | B. whether | C. which | D. that |
| Question 5: | A. being | B. been | C. to be | D. be |
| Question 6: | A. remaining | B. remain | C. remainder | D. remained |
| Question 7: | A. essential | B. slight | C. worthy | D. unimportant |
| Question 8: | A. by | B. to | C. at | D. in |
| Question 9: | A. a | B. an | C. the | D. some |
| Question 10: | A. as | B. so | C. but | D. then |
| Question 11: | A. waste | B. loss | C. disadvantage | D. death |
| Question 12: | A. anxiety | B. anxious | C. anxiously | D. anxiousness |
| Question 13: | A. draws | B. expresses | C. reports | D. describes |

II. Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions.

Family types vary in different countries and among different cultures. In Western, industrialized societies, the nuclear family ranks as the most common family type. It consists of a father, a mother and their children. But nuclear families exist together with many other types of family units. In the single-parent family, for example, a mother or a father heads the family alone. A **blended** family is formed when a divorced or widowed parent remarries. As divorce rates have risen, the number of single-parent and blended families has increased.

In many parts of the world, parents and children live together with other family members under the same roof. These complex families usually contain several generations of family members, including grandparents, parents and children. They may also include brothers or sisters and their families, uncles, aunts and cousins. Even when relatives do not live together, they still consider themselves members of the same extended family includes grandparents, uncles, aunts and cousins.

Question 1: The nuclear family ranks as the most common family type _____.

- A. an many industrialized countries
- B. in countries with nuclear weapons
- C. that consists of more than two generations
- D. that leads to the divorce of parents

Question 2: In the single-parent family, _____.

- A. there are often no children
- B. only one parent lives with his or her child or children
- C. the number of blended children has increased
- D. children live with their grandparents

Question 3: Grandparents, parents and children are mentioned as _____.

- A. the three typical generations of an extended family
- B. three branches of a family tree
- C. the closest and happiest relatives in family units
- D. a complex combination

Question 4: The second paragraph is about _____.

- A. American culture
- B. relatives and family members
- C. the relationship between family members
- D. the extended family

Question 5: The word “*blended*” in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to _____.

- A. complex
- B. married
- C. mixed
- D. formed

III. Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions.

Building positive family relationships

The ordinary, everyday things that families do together can help build strong relationships with teenagers. Regular family meals are a great chance for everyone to chat about their day, or about interesting things that are going on or coming up. If parents encourage everyone to have a say, no one will feel they’re being put on the spot to talk. Also, many families find that meals are more enjoyable when the TV isn’t turned on!

We should all take turns choosing outdoor activities for our families. A relaxing holiday or weekend away together as a family can also build togetherness.

One-on-one time with the child gives the parents the chance to stay connected and enjoy each other’s company. It can also be a chance to share thoughts and feelings.

Parents should celebrate the child’s accomplishments, share his disappointments, and show interest in his hobbies. Sometimes it’s just a matter of showing up to watch the child play sport or music, or giving him a lift to extracurricular activities.

Family traditions, routines and rituals can help parents and their children set aside regular dates and special times. For example, we might have a movie night together, a favourite meal or cooking session on a particular night, a family games afternoon or an evening walk together.

Agreed household responsibilities give kids of all ages the sense that they're making an important contribution to family life. These could be things like chores, shopping or helping older or younger members of the family.

Question 1: Regular family meals are a great chance for everyone _____.

- A. to have an opportunity share their daily activities
- B. to talk about TV programmes during the meal
- C. to have the spot to talk about
- D. to talk about interesting things that are coming soon

Question 2: The following things are true about outdoor activities for our families EXCEPT _____

- A. all family members try to find out suitable activities
- B. they should be held on holidays or at weekends
- C. they offer a chance to share secret thoughts and feelings
- D. they offer the pleasant feeling of being united

Question 3: Parents can show their attention to their child by all these things EXCEPT _____.

- A. watching the child play sport or music
- B. giving him a lift to extracurricular activities
- C. having a movie night together
- D. setting aside regular dates to do housework

Question 4: Children who share household chores with their parents will _____.

- A. enjoy each other's company
- B. make the family life better
- C. be given a chance to do extracurricular activities
- D. have a family games afternoon or an evening walk together

Question 5: The main idea of the passage is _____.

- A. to give advice on staying connected and enjoying each other's company
- B. how to share household chores between family members
- C. to offer pieces of advice to improve family relationships
- D. the important role of family traditions, routines and rituals

V-WRITING

E12: Use the verbs in their correct forms and add some words where necessary to make meaningful sentences.

Question 1: Mr Thanh / hate / do / housework / but / he still / clean / the house / once / week.

→ _____.

Question 2: I / have / a holiday / my family / in Mai Chau / now. / We / spend / our summer holidays here / every year.

→ _____.

Question 3: It / be / important / children / learn / some life skills / home.

→ _____.

Question 4: Parents / have / teach / their children / be honest and show respect to older people / an early age.

→ _____.

Question 5: Jane / think of / apply / another job. / She / think / her present job / be / boring.

→ _____.

Question 6: Doing housework / help / children / learn / take care / themselves.

→ _____.

Question 7: Family routines / connected / children's health / academic achievement.

→ _____.

Question 8: Children / should / learn / choose / right / kind of clothes / right occasion.

→

E13: Write a paragraph (120 — 150 words) about one of your family routines. Use the following questions as cues for your writing.

1. What is the routine?
2. How often / When do you do it?
3. What are the activities? What does each family member do?
4. How do you feel about the routine?

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