REAL LIFE

BRAT CAMP

Seven spoiled British teenagers were determined to lie, bully and cheat their way through life. Their parents couldn't find a way to control them – until they sent them to Brat Camp!

TURN OVER FOR MORE REAL LIFE

A Xanthe was fun, lively and very close to her mother until she was fifteen. Then she became a teenager from hell! Expelled from school, she hung around the streets, getting into trouble. Sixteen-year-old Jemma was equally impossible. She'd do anything to get what she wanted, including shoplifting! And Joe, sixteen, was so badly-behaved he bullied his own mum! The teenagers were out of control and heading for disaster. But their parents had one last trick up their sleeves! As a last resort, they sent their kids off for three months' behaviour therapy at Turn-about Ranch, in the wilds of Utah, USA. With them went four other spoiled 'brats'. Their time at the camp was filmed for the hit TV series *Brat Camp*.



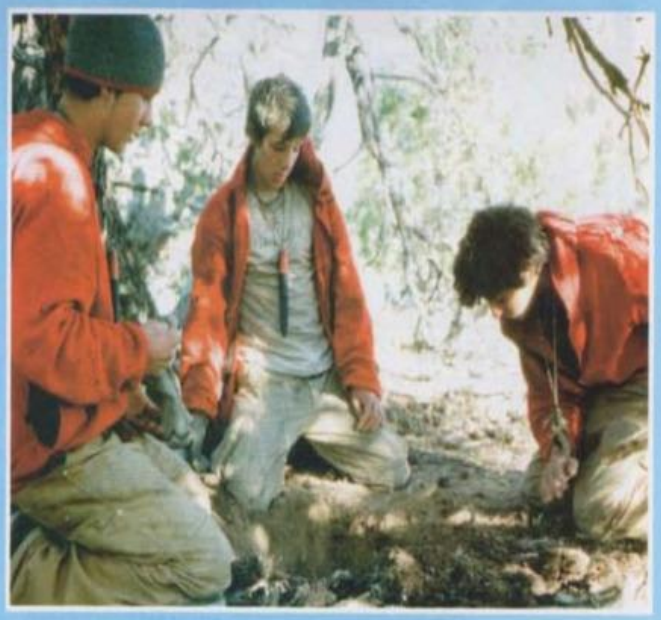
B The seven teenagers had a lot in common. Ed, sixteen, was a liar and a cheat and had stolen from his own brothers. Josh, fifteen, had a temper that frequently got him into trouble. Alex, fifteen, was violently aggressive. And Jenni, sixteen, was rude and moody and determined to embarrass her parents in any way she could. The teenagers had got away with murder at home. But they were in for a shock! Waiting for them at the airport in the USA was the boss of Turn-about. A tough ex-cop, he ruled the ranch with a rod of iron. Anyone trying to mess him about would find themselves in deep trouble!

C Life got worse when the teenagers reached Turn-about, an isolated cattle ranch. At the camp there was neither electricity nor running water! Sitting outside their log cabin that first night, the teenagers were given the rules of the camp. 'You must get up at 6.30 a.m.,' 'You must not swear,' 'You must ask permission before doing anything.' Confused and homesick, the teenagers begged to go home. But it was a waste of time. The ranch was in the middle of nowhere and contact with parents and friends was forbidden. There was no escape!

D Level one of the therapy began the next morning. It was designed to give the teenagers a nasty shock. And it certainly did! The kids were forced to spend three whole days sitting outdoors in small stone circles, in total silence. If any of them needed to leave the circle, they had to ask for permission. They couldn't even go to the toilet alone! If they were disrespectful to the staff, they were punished, and the rules got even stricter!

E After three days the teenagers went on to the next level of the behaviour therapy. The staff at Turn-about Ranch are real-life cowboys, who believe hard work is the best therapy for rebellious teens. The teenagers were expected to take part in ranch activities, like rounding up cattle on horseback, harvesting and mending fences. Work didn't stop, however hot and dusty or cold and snowy it was. In fact, there was no free time at all! At night the teenagers slept outdoors. They learned to light fires and trap animals for food. They were given certain goals, which meant working in a team. If they were disruptive, they had to stay at the ranch even longer.

F As the weeks went by, the teenagers acquired a new outlook on life. Joe changed a lot: in the cowboys, he found the strong male role models he'd lost when his parents divorced and his father left home. Turn-about changed Xanthe, too. Her mother had remarried when she was fifteen and she realised that envy of her new stepfather had caused her bad behaviour. Turn-about changed the other teenagers too, at least for now ...



LIVEWORKSHEETS

3 **Read the article. Match the questions (1–16) with the paragraphs (A–F).**

Which paragraph mentions

1 being forced to stop their education? A
2 learning basic survival skills? .....
3 copying someone because they admire them? .....
4 escaping punishment after behaving badly? .....
5 remaining in a restricted area without speaking? .....
6 being jealous of someone? .....
7 committing a crime? .....
8 having no opportunity to relax? .....
9 being denied any contact with family members? .....
10 an unpleasant surprise? .....
11 appearing on television? .....
12 having to cooperate with others to complete a task? .....
13 working with animals? .....
14 a changing attitude to the world? .....
15 doing something because everything else has failed? .....
16 meeting the person in charge? .....

4 **Find words in the article that match these meanings.**

1 deliberately frightened or threatened someone (para A)
2 badly-behaved children (para A)
3 spent time doing nothing (para A)
4 a former policeman (para B)
5 behaved badly without being punished (para B)
6 use bad language (para C)
7 causing problems (para E)
8 people whose behaviour it is good to copy (para F)

LIVEWORKSHEETS