

Fill in the gaps with the words from the box and then share the story with your partners:

entrenched subsided knots roll with the punches



I was 14 and at an average private school. It was the school my father had been and his brother taught there, which I found uncomfortable. My younger brother had just won a scholarship to a much better private school. I was at a sports event with my father at my school and he got talking to another parent, who congratulated him on having clever children. My father indicated towards me and said, “No, he’s the

dim one.” **My stomach tied in** 1) . I remember the parent’s intake of breath and a surprised, “Oh.” It is shattering how one unguarded comment can get 2) **in your mind!** My father died at the age of 54, when I was 29. Many years have passed since then. I’m a grown-up man who learnt to 3) but my anger has never truly 4) . I feel that the very many things I have done in my professional life have been to try to prove him wrong.