Adjectives Referring to Family Relations

Match the adjectives from the box to their definitions.

ancestral	**avuncular**	**conjugal**	**cousinly**
filial	**fraternal**	**grandparental**	**marital**
maternal	**nepotic / nepotistic**	**parental**	**paternal**
sibling	**sororal**	**spousal**	

Relating to a mother or motherhood. _____

Relating to a father or fatherhood. _____

Relating to the relationship of a child to their parents. _____

Relating to brothers, or brotherly. _____

Relating to sisters, or sisterly. _____

Relating to an uncle; often used more broadly to mean kind and protective like an uncle.

_____

Relating to a nephew or (more commonly) favoritism toward relatives, especially by giving them jobs. _____

Relating to parents or parental authority. _____

Relating to marriage or the relationship between spouses. _____

Relating to the married relationship, especially the physical or legal aspects of marriage.

_____

Relating to a spouse (husband or wife). _____

Relating to brothers and sisters. _____

Relating to cousins, or friendly like cousins. _____

Relating to a grandparent. _____

Relating to ancestors or family heritage. _____

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Complete each sentence with one of the adjectives above.

Children need both guidance and affection from their _____ figures.

He spent every summer with his _____ relatives in Italy.

His _____ duties included telling bedtime stories.

His teacher had an _____ approach, guiding the students patiently.

She inherited her _____ grandmother's necklace.

She offered _____ advice when her younger sister needed guidance.

She received health insurance through her _____ benefits.

The couple enjoyed their _____ rights after the wedding.

The mayor was accused of _____ practices after hiring his cousin.

The son showed _____ respect by caring for his elderly parents.

The two teammates had a _____ bond.

Their _____ rivalry continued well into adulthood.

They greeted each other with _____ warmth.

They returned to their _____ home in the countryside.

They went to counseling to work on their _____ issues.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Specialized / Technical Family-Relation Adjectives (Anthropology, Law, Kinship Studies)

Complete the sample sentences following the definitions using one of the adjectives from the box.

affinal	**agnatic**	**bilateral**	**cognatic**
collateral	**consanguineous**	**lineal**	**matrilineal**
patrilineal	**uxorial**		

Definition: Relating to a wife.
Sentence: Her _____ duties included managing the household.

Definition: Relating to descent or inheritance through the male line.
Sentence: The throne passed according to _____ succession.

Definition: Relating to descent or inheritance traced through both the male and female lines.
Sentence: Modern legal systems often recognize _____ inheritance rights.

Definition: Relating to people who are blood relatives (descended from the same ancestor).
Sentence: The law forbids marriage between close _____ relatives.

Definition: Relating to kinship by marriage (in-laws).
Sentence: His _____ relatives welcomed him warmly at family gatherings.

Definition: Relating to direct descent (parents, grandparents, children, grandchildren).
Sentence: Only _____ descendants were eligible to inherit the estate.

Definition: Relating to relatives who are not in the direct line of descent (siblings, cousins, aunts, uncles).
Sentence: She left her fortune to her _____ heirs.

Definition: Descent or inheritance traced through the father's line.
Sentence: In a(n) _____ system, property is passed from father to son.

Definition: Descent or inheritance traced through the mother's line.
Sentence: Some Indigenous groups follow a(n) _____ system.

Definition: Recognizing both sides of the family equally for descent and inheritance.
Sentence: Western societies usually follow _____ kinship.

LIVEWORKSHEETS