Unit 2

THE GENERATION GAP

I Pronunciation

1 Read the following sentences and choose the full form of the underlined words. Then practise saying the sentences.

1. **She's** never discussed her problems with her father.
   A. She is B. She has
2. **There's** always some disagreement between me and my mother.
   A. There is B. There has
3. **I'd** like some fruit cake, please.
   A. I would B. I had
4. **We'd** lived with our extended family before we moved to a new house.
   A. We would B. We had

2 Rewrite the following sentences using contractions. Then practise saying them.

1. Many people do not like to live with their extended family.
2. Parents should not limit their children's screen time.
3. Even facts cannot make people change their minds.
4. She said she would not like to go to the park.

II Vocabulary

1 Find the following words in the word search.

digital native	conflict
curious	hire
extended	generation
argument	traditional

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x	y	x	c	a	b	c	a	d	e	f	g	h	e
a	r	g	u	m	e	n	t	t	f	g	h	l	e
i	j	k	r	q	r	b	f	c	e	m	p	r	p
d	i	g	i	t	a	l		n	a	t	i	v	e
m	o	n	o	a	x	y	h	u	x	h	f	e	r
d	c	b	u	d	e	f	l	c	g	h	n	m	a
h	k	l	s	v	r	e	t	m	f	g	h	j	m
q	w	e	r	e	e	x	t	e	n	d	e	d	e
t	y	u	i	o	p	a	m	a	s	d	f	g	n
h	j	k	t	c	i	l	f	n	o	c	a	o	t
l	z	x	g	g	e	n	e	r	a	t	i	o	n
t	t	r	a	d	i	t	i	o	n	a	l	s	d

2 Choose the best answers to complete the sentences.

1. It is impossible to avoid daily _____ when you live with your extended family.
   - A. arguments
   - B. views
   - C. attitudes
   - D. characteristics
2. Older generations often have very _____ about how people should live.
   - A. common characteristics
   - B. traditional views
   - C. generational conflicts
   - D. cultural values
3. We should respect the _____ that have been passed down from the previous generations.
   - A. family conflicts
   - B. generational differences
   - C. cultural values
   - D. common behaviours
4. Educational games can help bridge the _____ between children, parents, and grandparents.
   - A. nuclear family
   - B. extended family
   - C. common behaviour
   - D. generation gap
5. Older generations can cope with difficulties because they have _____ many changes in their lives.
   - A. experienced
   - B. refused
   - C. looked for
   - D. influenced
6. My little brother always asks questions and is _____ to find out all the answers.
   - A. strange
   - B. curious
   - C. experienced
   - D. responsible

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7. Gen Zers are very _____ as they always come up with new ideas or things.

A. experienced B. curious C. creative D. traditional

8. My parents need to _____ someone to look after my grandparents.

A. lose B. play C. gain D. hire

3 Complete the text using the words and phrases in the box.

open to	generational differences	common characteristics
extended family	traditional views	follow in their footsteps
disagreements	experiences	

In Asian cultures, many people still live with their (1) _____, which usually consists of three or more generations. Members of such families often have (2) _____ or even come into conflict due to (3) _____. Older generations may have (4) _____ about gender roles and may want younger generations to agree with them. For example, many Asian parents still force their children to (5) _____ when choosing careers and other activities. They fail to realise that they may not share many (6) _____. The (7) _____ parents have had growing up don't always apply to their children's life. Therefore, it is very important for people of different generations to be (8) _____ new ideas. Understanding each other's views and values will help to bridge the generation gap.

III Grammar

1 Choose the best answers to complete the sentences.

1. My mother wanted to become a dancer, but she _____ follow in her parents' footsteps and became a medical doctor.

A. had to B. must C. shouldn't D. has to

2. You _____ wear shorts to school. Please put your school uniform on.

A. must B. mustn't C. have to D. don't have to

3. My parents are always open to different views. I _____ agree with their opinions.

A. have to B. must C. don't have to D. mustn't

4. I think parents _____ limit their children's screen time to protect their eyesight.

A. mustn't B. don't have to C. shouldn't D. should

5. Parents _____ expect their children to take care of them when they get old. Their adult children will have their own life and many other duties.

A. shouldn't B. don't have to C. must D. should

6. There are agreed rules in each family that its members _____ follow.

A. don't have to B. must C. mustn't D. had to

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7. You should be yourself! You _____ worry too much about what other people think about you.

A. should B. have to C. don't have to D. didn't have to

8. In some cultures, women don't get an education. They _____ stay at home and do all the household chores.

A. shouldn't B. don't have to C. should D. have to

2 Complete the sentences using the correct forms of the words in the box. Some words are used more than once.

must	mustn't	have to
(not) have to	should	shouldn't

1. In my family, there are several rules that we all _____ follow.
2. Growing up, my father _____ do any household chores. They were his mother's and sisters' responsibility.
3. In our culture, the firstborn son _____ take care of his parents when they get old.
4. Some people think children _____ interrupt their parents or older people.
5. To get on with each other, we _____ respect our differences.
6. My grandfather belongs to a different generation, so he _____ force his own views on me.
7. As the only daughter in the family, my aunt _____ do a lot of household chores, so she left school earlier.
8. My parents don't allow me to stay out late. I _____ return home before 9:30 p.m.

3 Rewrite the sentences without changing their meanings using the modal verbs in brackets.

1. You are required to ask your parents for permission before going out. (must)

→ _____

2. You are not allowed to colour your hair. (mustn't)

→ _____

3. It is not necessary for children to go to kindergarten. (not have to)

→ _____

4. It is a good idea for parents to try to understand their teenage children. (should)

→ _____

5. Women were responsible for all household chores in the past. (had to)

→ _____

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6. It is not a good idea for you to study at night. (shouldn't)

→ _____

7. You are not allowed to stay overnight at your friend's house. (mustn't)

→ _____

8. He is required to look after his younger brother when his parents are still at work. (has to)

→ _____

IV Reading

1 Read the text and choose the best answers.

What causes the generation gap?

'Generation gap' is a popular term used to describe the differences between generations. The young and the old do not (1) _____ each other well because of their (2) _____ experiences, opinions, habits, and behaviour. That is why parents often try to (3) _____ their children from doing things that they believe would harm them. On the other hand, children do their best to (4) _____ that they are responsible and can take (5) _____ of their own lives. Neither parents nor children are wrong. They are both right in their own (6) _____. Parents, blinded by their love for their children, would rather have their own experiences (7) _____ the experiences of their kids. In contrast, their children are completely (8) _____ that their decisions are right and are based on current situations that their parents may not be aware of.

1. A. accept	B. understand	C. experience	D. respect
2. A. different	B. difficult	C. similar	D. unexpected
3. A. present	B. prevent	C. encourage	D. increase
4. A. send	B. encourage	C. improve	D. prove
5. A. control	B. focus	C. conflict	D. action
6. A. road	B. way	C. street	D. place
7. A. change	B. stop	C. replace	D. develop
8. A. decided	B. safe	C. unsure	D. sure

2 Read the text and complete these sentences with no more than TWO words from the text.

Bridging the generation gap

As time goes by, customs and traditions, which help shape the identity of an individual, change. That is why people belonging to different generations don't usually share the same values and beliefs. The difference in politics, culture, and other areas of life is what separates the generations and is often described as a generation gap. This can

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lead to frequent disagreements or even conflicts between the generations in a family. Therefore, bridging the generation gap is important. Below are some tips on how different generations in a family can connect.

First, all generations should be open to new ideas. Having more life experiences, parents often think that they know what is best for their children. However, the world is changing all the time. So, parents should keep an open mind about new ideas or things that probably didn't even exist when they were growing up. For their part, children should also be willing to listen to their parents and try to learn important life lessons from them.

Second, it is important for parents and children to make time for each other every day. Poor communication or lack of it can harm the relationship between family members. They should make an effort to listen to each other. For example, start by asking your parents about how they spend their day at work. Finding some enjoyable activities that you can all do together is the best way to strengthen family bonds.

In conclusion, healthy family love can help bridge the generation gap. Parents and children love each other for who they are, no matter what they say, think, or do. Even if people might not approve of what other family members do or say, they are still family and always will be.

1. Bridging the generation gap is important to avoid _____ and conflicts between the generations in a family.
2. Because they have more _____, parents believe they know what their children need.
3. Children should also learn important _____ from their parents.
4. The relationship between family members can suffer because of _____ or lack of it.
5. Healthy _____ means love, care, loyalty, and respect for family members, no matter what they say, think, or do.

V Speaking

1 Complete the conversations by circling the best answers. Then practise reading them.

1. ***Tom:*** Mum, _____ go to Nam's birthday party this Saturday evening?
   Tom's mum: Yes, certainly.
   A. can I **B.** do I **C.** shall I **D.** am I
2. ***Lan:*** Dad, do you mind if I invite some friends to my birthday party?
   Lan's dad: _____.
   A. Yes, I'd love to **B.** Of course not. Go ahead
   C. Yes, I do **D.** Of course. Go ahead
3. ***Khoa:*** Mum, is it OK if I stay overnight at a friend's house?
   Khoa's mum: _____. You must be home by 10 p.m.
   A. Go on **B.** Of course you can
   C. I'm afraid not **D.** Go ahead

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4. ***Nam:*** Mr Quang, _____ if I left the class five minutes early today?
Mr Quang: I'd rather you didn't, if you don't mind.

A. can I
B. would you mind
C. you mind
D. I'm sorry, but

2 Answer the following questions about the generation gap.

1. In your opinion, what does a generation gap mean?
2. Is there a generation gap in your family?
3. When do you feel the generation gap the most?
4. What do you do to overcome the generation gap?
5. Do you think you can become a better parent than your own parents in the future?

VI Writing

1 Rewrite the sentences without changing their meanings. Use the correct form of the modal verbs in brackets.

1. It is not necessary for young people to go to university. (not have to)
→ Young people _____ university.
2. It is important that parents be good role models for their children. (must)
→ Parents _____ their children.
3. It is advisable for parents and children to spend time together. (should)
→ Parents and children _____.
4. Parents are not allowed to leave their young children alone at home. (must not)
→ Parents _____ at home.
5. In many Asian cultures, it is the responsibility of firstborn children to look after their aging parents. (have to)
→ In many Asian cultures, firstborn children _____.
6. It is not a good idea for women to leave their jobs after getting married. (should not)
→ Women _____ married.
7. It is important for all family members to follow the family house rules. (must)
→ All family members _____.
8. People are not allowed to post rude comments on the website. (must not)
→ People _____ on the website.

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2 **Use the words and phrases below, and add some words where necessary to make meaningful sentences. Change the verb forms if necessary.**

1. my opinion, / living / extended family / best way / bridge / generation gap.

2. When / live / together, / different generations / start / share ideas and values / regular basis.

3. Parents / should / explain / children / why / they / have a job / describe / what / do at work.

4. Living / extended family / provide / opportunity for people / get / understand and respect / generational differences.

5. Older people / more likely / accept / behaviour and lifestyle / their children or grandchildren.

3 **Write an essay (120–150 words) to express your opinion about the statement below. You can either agree or disagree with it. Use the ideas in the table to help you.**

Living with extended family helps bridge the generation gap.	
Agree	Disagree
– Different generations share ideas, values, and experiences with each other on a regular basis. – Different generations learn to understand and respect their differences.	– There are often disagreements or even conflicts between different generations. – It is difficult to build healthy family relationships.

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