

Fill in the gaps with the words from the box:

leap dubious sounding fraught straw travails grubby

**Your chances of developing multiple sclerosis double if you have a younger sibling (false)**

Brothers and sisters might expose you to germs and colds, but having lots of 1) \_\_\_\_\_ younger siblings might protect you from getting multiple sclerosis (MS) later in life. A recent Australian study found that living with younger siblings reduces your risk of developing it by 88%. The current thinking is that thanks to the 2) \_\_\_\_\_ personal hygiene of younger siblings, older kids are regularly exposed to childhood bugs, giving their immune systems a workout that will help fight the infections associated with MS down the track. But when it comes to risk of an allergy, first-borns draw the short 3) \_\_\_\_\_. Younger siblings may be slightly less likely to develop allergies and eczema than their older siblings, perhaps because by the time they arrive there are plenty of germs in the home environment thanks to older siblings. And germs, in turn, can help to build a stronger immune system.

**Sisters are trusted confidants about matters of the heart (true)**

Need some relationship advice? Sisters make the best 4) \_\_\_\_\_ boards. According to research by the University of Missouri-Columbia, sisters listen to their siblings' venting and share stories of their own dating 5) \_\_\_\_\_ far more so than brothers.

**Younger siblings are more risk-prone (true)**

Youngest children are often described as being more willing to take risks and embrace an entrepreneurial mindset. Studies have found that the youngest children in families are nearly 50% more likely to take the 6) \_\_\_\_\_ into starting their own business or to engage in activities 7) \_\_\_\_\_ with danger, demonstrating their bold approach to life.



The Elegant English Club

C1 & C2