READING AND USE OF ENGLISH

Complete the gaps in the text with one word only.

Quality communication

Obviously, people had _____ communicating long before technology existed. However, while it was _____ always possible to communicate with so many people in some many places as is the case today.

I believe there was more "quality communication" back then.

For one thing, people _____ to spend more time with each other in the past. For instance, families _____ look forward to gathering around the dinner table at the end of the day. It was a special time for both children and adults. My mother told me that her father, who always talked first, tended _____ talk about his day at work and afterwards she and her brother talked about their day at school. As for her mother she sat at the table _____ quiet as a mouse listening to everyone. It was obvious that she

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_____ paying close attention to what they were saying and thinking about what advice she was _____ to give them, which was always valuable!

Unfortunately, nowadays, we don't make enough time for "quality communication" with our friends and family.

Fiction vs non-fiction

Parents often worry that their children _____ wasting time reading magazines or childish stories. They believe that children would benefit more _____ reading something more "difficult", more educational.

But, what does "educational" material mean? Some say that by reading non-fiction, children pick _____ the skills needed for informative writing. Indeed, studies have shown that children who _____ spent time reading non-fiction are better prepared for university.

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There are, however, those who believe that the decision of _____ to read should be left in the hands of children themselves. They argue that children should view reading as entertainment, not as _____ educational chore. Another thing that should be taken _____ account is that literature requires imagination; whatever the texts, children who have _____ reading all their life are usually more emotionally mature than their peers.

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