FAMILY LIFE

Questions 26-35: ***Read the following passage and circle the letter A, B, C or D to indicate the correct word of phrase that best fits each of the numbered blanks.***

A "typical" British family used to **(26)** _____ of mother, father and two children, but in recent years there have been many changes in family life. Some of these have been caused by new laws and others are the result of changes in society. For example, since the law made it easier to get a divorce, the number of divorces has **(27)** _____. In fact, one marriage in every three now ends in divorce. This means that there are a lot of one-parent families. Society is now more **(28)** _____ of unmarried people, unmarried couples and single parents than it used to be.

Another change has been caused by the fact that people are living longer nowadays, and many old people live alone following the death of their partners. As a result of these changes in the pattern of people's lives, there are many households which include only one person or one person and children.

You might think that marriage and the family are not so popular as they once were. However, the majority of divorced people marry again, and they sometimes take **(29)** _____ for a second family.

Members of a family - grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins - **(30)** _____ in touch, but they see less of each other than they used to. This is because people often move away from their home town to work, and so the family becomes scattered. Christmas is the traditional season for family **(31)** _____. Although the family group is smaller nowadays than it used to be, relatives often travel many miles in order to spend the holiday together.

26.	**A.** include	**B.** consist	**C.** comprise	**D.** contain
27.	**A.** increased	**B.** decreased	**C.** reduced	**D.** limited
28.	**A.** responsible	**B.** modern	**C.** tolerant	**D.** democratic
29.	**A.** control	**B.** consideration	**C.** charge	**D.** responsibility
30.	**A.** keep	**B.** take	**C.** make	**D.** save
31.	**A.** relationships	**B.** gatherings	**C.** ties	**D.** background

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In general, each generation is keen to become **(32)** _____ of parents in establishing its own family unit, and this fact can **(33)** _____ to social as well as geographical differences within the larger family group.

Relationships within the family are different now. Children have more freedom to make their own decisions. The father is more involved **(34)** _____ bringing up children, often because the mother goes out to work. Increased leisure facilities and more money mean that there are greater opportunities outside the home. Although the family holiday is still an important part of family life (usually taken in August, and often abroad) many children have holidays away from their parents, often with a school party or other organized group.

Who looks after the older generation? There are about 10 million old-age pensioners in Britain, of whom about 750,000 cannot live entirely independently. The government gives **(35)** _____ help in the form of a pension but in the future it will be more and more difficult for the nation economy to support the increasing number of elderly. At the present time, more than half of all old people are looked after at home. Many others live in Old Peoples' Homes, which may be private or state owned.

(Source: studfile.net)

32.	**A.** independence	**B.** independent	**C.** independently	**D.** dependent
33.	**A.** bring	**B.** make	**C.** result	**D.** lead
34.	**A.** of	**B.** with	**C.** to	**D.** from
35.	**A.** financial	**B.** professional	**C.** medical	**D.** technical

Questions 36-40: *Read the following passage and circle the letter A, B, C or D to indicate the correct word of phrase that best fits each of the numbered blanks.*

When teenagers and their parents have arguments, it does not mean that something is wrong with their relationship. It means that the participants are on different wavelengths in wishes, values, attitudes or beliefs. A conflict is never easy, but **it** is more prevalent in households where there are teenagers attempting to establish individualism and a parent reluctant to accept the changes.

Where there are an adolescent and a parental figure in a home, any topic can trigger a disagreement. Topics that cause the greatest stress in a family include household rules and responsibilities, according to Dr. Carl E. Pickhardt, an expert in parenting. School-related issues also set off many arguments, as does nonconformance to values held by the family.

Certain processes must occur for the child to reach healthy emotional adulthood, according to Carl Pickhardt, Ph.D. He identifies separation, differentiation and opposition as necessary processes.

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In the separation process, the teen wants distance from parents and family to **gain** individuality in the social world and to establish privacy. Because of the desire to separate, the teen communicates less with the parents, which concerns them.

In the period of differentiation, the teen begins to experiment with self-images to discern who he wants to become. Hair, clothing styles and individual image are important to the teen. Often, the parent does not agree with some of the choices, which is natural.

Opposition is the process of challenging parental authority. Parent and child disagree about what is acceptable, fair, good or bad. Disagreement can become a way of life in the family.

Often conflict between teens and parents turns into a battle of wills. Both parties strive to win each argument, and winning rather than communication becomes the objective.

Blame is a destructive entity in any conversation. Understanding what someone is saying is the necessary focus, not who is at fault.

Yelling tends to shift the emphasis onto who can be louder, not the essence of the conversation.

Dr. Teri Apter, a specialist in family dynamics, explains that a teenager wants acknowledgment from a parent. The teen expects the parent to know that this transforming individual can act like an adult and make good decisions. The recognition of maturity and value as a person is also high on a teenager's list.

Academic studies, society and peers cause most of the pressure that a teenager must endure. The way that the teen chooses to handle the burdens of upcoming adulthood can determine her future path. An observant and guiding parent can help along the way.

(by Sandi Hoffman, 2010)

36. A conflict between parents and their teenage children can occur because _____.

A. they have different views, wishes and attitudes

B. parents want to punish their children

C. parents want their children to become more hard-working

D. teenagers are under a lot of pressure from their schooling

37. Which processes do teenagers go through to attain healthy emotional adulthood according to Dr. Carl Pickhardt?

A. separation, disagreement and opposition

B. separation, conflict and opposition

C. argument, differentiation and opposition

D. separation, differentiation and opposition

38. In the passage, the word "**it**" refers to _____.

A. individualism **B.** conflict **C.** relationship **D.** attitude

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39. Why do some conflicts become "battles"?

A. Because parents and their teenage children want to communicate more with each other.

B. Because parents and teenagers want to win each argument.

C. Because teenagers want to become independent.

D. Because parents are too strict with their children.

40. In paragraph 3, the word "**gain**" is closest in meaning to _____.

A. lose **B.** reflect **C.** express **D.** obtain

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