2 Add one of these prefixes *dis-*, *im-*, *in-*, *ir-*, *un-* to each of the words to make opposites.

~~cooperative~~ uncooperative critical enthusiastic mature organised reliable responsible sensitive sympathetic

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

LIVEWORKSHEETS

FROM WORST ENEMIES TO BEST FRIENDS

Everybody feels irritated by their siblings from time to time. Maybe your younger brother shows off and behaves in an immature way when you invite your friends to your house. Or perhaps your hardworking older sister gets a lot of praise from your parents, making you feel like you are not trying hard enough. At times, your brother or sister can feel like your worst enemy. [1] But your relationship can improve greatly with a bit of effort and understanding.

Sibling relationships can be especially difficult for teenagers, who are experiencing many changes to their preferences and personality. [2] For example, you may now find some of the activities that you used to enjoy doing with your younger brother childish or a waste of time. At times, the age difference can feel bigger than it really is, and this can have a negative effect on your relationship.

One way to solve this problem is to make sure you continue to include your brother or sister in your day-to-day life. Find an activity that you think you will both enjoy and suggest that you do it together. [3] If you do this activity regularly, you will soon remember how much fun it can be to spend time together, and you will start to get on better with each other. This can take some time, so it is important to be patient and enthusiastic.



Of course, it is perfectly normal for brothers and sisters to fall out with one another over small things. When you live together, it is only natural that you will get on each other's nerves from time to time. For example, if your younger sister is always borrowing your clothes without your permission and then loses or damages them, then of course it is your right to be annoyed with her. [4] It is important to learn to forgive your siblings for this kind of behaviour, just as you would forgive your close friends.

In situations like these, it is really important to let your sibling know how you feel. Rather than insulting



your sister when she takes your things, tell her that it makes you feel angry, and that you would feel much happier if she asked you first. [5] Your older brother may be more popular with your parents for his academic achievements, but he may also feel sad that he is not so popular with you. By making an effort to understand each other's feelings, your relationship will quickly improve.

Finally, it is important to learn how to compromise. It is understandable that you may not want to lend your favourite jumper to your unreliable sister, but maybe you could offer her a less valuable alternative item of clothing. Or if your brother likes to spend all his free time watching football and you find it boring, you could suggest a different sport that you follow regularly together. [6] And if you make the effort to make your sibling happy, he or she will do the same for you.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

- In Reading and Use of English Part 6, you read a text of 500–600 words with six gaps where sentences have been removed.
- You choose one sentence from a list of seven sentences (A–G) for each gap; there is one sentence you will not need.

Exam advice

5 **Read the article opposite carefully, ignoring the spaces, and make a note of the main idea of each paragraph.**

First paragraph:

Getting on with your siblings can be difficult, but it is possible to have a good relationship.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

6 **Six sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences (A–G) the one which fits each gap (1–6). There is one extra sentence which you do not need.**

Use the underlined words in the sentences and in the text to help you.

A It is also crucial that you are sensitive to the feelings of your siblings too.

B Your siblings need to learn to take responsibility if they have done something wrong.

C These arrangements will hopefully make both of you more cheerful.

D It is only natural that these developments will affect your feelings towards members of your family.

E But you should try not to let incidents like these have too big an effect on your relationship.

F Indeed, it could seem impossible to imagine that you could ever be friends.

G This could be watching a series on television, joining an exercise class or even preparing a family meal.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Grammar

Present perfect simple and continuous

▶ Page 162 Grammar reference

1 **Look at the pairs of sentences in *italics* and answer the questions that follow.**

1 **a** *I've broken my personal record playing virtual tennis.*

b *I've been playing virtual tennis all evening.*

Which sentence (a or b) talks about ...

1 the result of an activity?

2 the length of an activity?

2 **a** *I've been learning how to bake bread.*

b *I've phoned her more than six times, but she never answers the phone.*

Which sentence (a or b) talks about ...

1 how many times something has been repeated?

2 changes or developments which are not finished?

3 **a** *I've been helping my mum while her assistant is on holiday.*

b *We've lived in this house since I was a small child.*

Which sentence (a or b) talks about something which is ...

1 temporary?

2 permanent?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

2 **Complete the sentences with the present perfect simple or continuous form of the verbs in brackets.**

1 I've been visiting (visit) friends, so I haven't spoken to my parents yet today.

2 My mum ..... (ask) me to tidy my room several times.

3 I ..... (clean) the kitchen, so what would you like me to do next?

4 Our neighbour ..... (play) the violin for the last three hours and it's driving me mad!

5 Congratulations! You ..... (pass) the exam with really high marks!

6 Adriana doesn't know many people in our town yet. She ..... (only live) here for a few weeks.

7 We ..... (spend) every summer in Crete since I was a child, so it'll be sad if we don't go there this year.

8 I'm really tired because I ..... (cook) all day!

LIVEWORKSHEETS