1 Look at the photo. Why do you think Ella is angry with her sister? Read the blog quickly to check your answer.



a because she shares the same room
b because she never leaves her alone
c because she borrows her clothes

Ella's blog

BLOG ABOUT ME SEARCH

Hi everyone!

Generally speaking I'm enjoying life as a teenager, but there are times when it really gets me down. It's great that my parents are giving me a bit more independence. I have a really good group of friends and I see them two or three times a week. We go swimming every weekend, too. That's the good part. But one part of my life is definitely getting worse – and that's my relationship with my younger sister, Hanna. It is becoming an absolute nightmare. She's two years younger than me, but she wants to do exactly the same things as I do. That means she wants to have the same hairstyle as I have, she copies my clothes, she even wears the same make-up as me. And sometimes she makes me furious because she borrows my clothes without asking. I hate it. In fact, while I'm writing this blog I can see her from my room. She's in the back garden and she's wearing my white T-shirt and jeans, which are now really dirty because she's lying on her back in the grass. My parents know about this because I always tell them, but they don't understand. They think it's fine. They say my sister's younger than me so I need to be kind to her. But they're my clothes and it's my room. It's private!

I also have an older brother, Jimmy, who is really great. He goes to a different school because he's older, but he always helps me with my homework if it's difficult. My laptop sometimes breaks and he repairs it for me. He loves playing computer games and he often lets me play, too. We get on very well. Hanna never goes into his room or takes his things. I know she doesn't want his clothes. But she doesn't even go in there to borrow a pen or some paper – or play a computer game while he's out. Why me???

2 Read the blog again and choose the best answers.

1 Ella is quite happy at the moment because …
a she's got more freedom than before.
b she likes going out with her family.
c she's getting on well with her school work.

2 Ella's sister wants …
a to use Ella's laptop all the time.
b to look just like Ella.
c to copy all Ella's work.

3 Ella gets angry because …
a her parents always agree with her sister.
b she has to share a room with her sister.
c her parents don't buy her new clothes.

4 Ella's brother is …
a unkind to her sister.
b good with computers.
c away at university a lot.

5 Which would be the best title for the blog?
a My brother's amazing!
b My parents don't understand me!
c My sister's annoying!

3 CRITICAL THINKING

Which of these statements are good (G) and which bad (B) advice for Ella?

1 Shout at your sister so she doesn't do it again. G/B
2 Borrow some of her clothes and throw them away. G/B
3 Tell your parents every time she takes something. G/B
4 Talk to her and say she can borrow some things, but not others. G/B
5 Put a lock on your door so no one can go in. G/B
6 Give her some of your old clothes. G/B
7 Offer her style advice. G/B

4 Match the underlined words in the blog with the definitions.

1 makes me upset _____
2 very angry _____
3 a big problem _____
4 uses something that belongs to someone else, then gives it back later _____
5 fixes something broken _____

5 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words or phrases from 4.

1 If I get bad results in a test it _____.
2 I've got to rewrite an essay for the teacher. It's an _____.
3 My mum was _____ when Dad crashed her car.
4 When I dropped my mobile phone on the floor, it was impossible to _____ it.
5 I don't like to _____ money from friends.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

1 Read the uses (a–d) for the present simple and present continuous. Decide if they are uses for the present simple (S) or present continuous (C).

a actions that are happening now or temporary situations S/C

b regular habits and routines S/C

c things that are generally true S/C

d with verbs like *love, hate, know, understand* S/C

2 Match the sentences with the uses from 1.

1 She's lying on the grass at the moment. ____

2 My laptop sometimes breaks. ____

3 I see my friends three times a week. ____

4 She makes me furious. ____

5 She's wearing my T-shirt and jeans. ____

6 I have a really good group of friends. ____

7 He loves playing computer games. ____

8 We go swimming every weekend. ____

STUDY SKILLS

When you have a problem with grammar, where can you find help?

➤ STUDY SKILLS page 94

3 Complete the dialogues with the present simple or the present continuous form of the verbs given.

1 **A:** Why has he got his hand up?

B: He _____ (want) the teacher to ask him. He _____ (know) the answer.

2 **A:** Why _____ you _____ (study)?

B: I've got an exam tomorrow.

3 **A:** How do you prepare for exams?

B: I _____ (read) my notes and then I _____ (write) questions for myself.

4 **A:** Who _____ (sing) downstairs?

B: That's my sister. She's good, isn't she?

5 **A:** *Bonjour, Mademoiselle.*

B: Sorry, I _____ (not speak) French.

6 **A:** What's that smell? Is it pizza?

B: Yes. My dad _____ (cook) dinner.

7 **A:** Why isn't your mum here at the moment?

B: She _____ (finish) work late on Thursdays.

8 **A:** Can I speak to the director?

B: No. He _____ (speak) to someone.

4 Write questions using the prompts below.

1 Where/you/live?
Where do you live?

2 Where/your mother/work?
_____

3 you/have/a best friend/at the moment?
_____

4 your friend/speak English/well?
_____

5 you/do/your homework/at the moment?
_____

6 What/sports/you/do?
_____

7 What/your friend/read/at the moment?
_____

8 Who/you/usually/sit next to/in English lessons?
_____

GRAMMAR CHALLENGE

5 Find and correct the mistakes. Two of the sentences are correct.

1 Are you writting your essay at the moment?
_____

2 She doesn't have her books with her today?
_____

3 Do you studying for your exam now?
_____

4 Why are you and Joe walking to school today?
_____

5 Do your brother plays in the basketball team?
_____

6 My cousin studies at this school.
_____

7 My sister and I are having two bikes at the moment.
_____

8 **A:** What do you do now?
B: I listen to my MP3 player.
_____

9 Does your parents work at the hospital?
_____

10 I am loving listening to music.
_____

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Listening

1 SPEAKING Describe the photos. What other things can cause arguments between parents and teenagers?





2 06 Listen to a radio programme about arguments between teenagers and parents. Do they mention any of your ideas in 1?

3 06 Listen again. Write *Oliver*, *Emma*, *Harry*, *Charlotte* or *Poppy* for each question. There is one extra question that you don't need.

Who ...

A feels that his/her father or mother is never happy with what he/she does after school? .....

B accepts that he/she does something wrong but thinks that it isn't very important? .....

C has arguments because he/she needs to be able to make independent decisions? .....

D has arguments with a parent because he/she never does homework or study? .....

E argues with his/her mother or father because they disagree about a free-time activity? .....

F has arguments with a family member but not because of a problem with a parent? .....

4 06 Listen again. Answer the questions.

1 What does Oliver like about his family situation?

2 Why does Emma's mum protect Emma's sister?

3 What does Harry's dad do and where does he work?

4 What does Charlotte's mum do?

5 What does Poppy say about being a teenager?

LIVEWORKSHEETS