

Unit 2 Let's talk teens

Welcome to the unit & Reading (I)



*I don't know what “home” is, but unhappiness
and worries **melt away** once there.*

—Bing Xin



**What's the definition
of “home” to you?**

“Home is the h arbor of soul in the wind and waves.”



“Home is where love stays, memories are created, and laughter never ends.”

“Home is more than a h ouse, but a world of l ove and h appiness.”



“Home is a place where you grow up wanting to leave, and grow o ld wanting to get back to.”

Morning and night, Mother Bird is there
Until her baby's old enough to leave the nest.
Mother Bird, with all her love and care,
Longs to provide her baby with the best.
Often, she worries, from day to day—
Very soon her baby will be full-grown.
Excitedly, it will jump away,
Spread its wings and fly alone.
Yet, she knows, she must let it fly
Over the hills and across the sky,
Under her careful, watching eye.



Describe Mother Bird's feelings in the poem.

How would you describe Mother Bird's feelings in the poem?

She has mixed feelings about her baby:

- ◆ **On the one hand**, she is very protective of her baby. She is worried about its flying away by itself.
- ◆ **On the other hand**, she understands that when her baby has grown up she will have to give it more freedom. However, she will always be there for her baby.

Comparison

Song of the Parting Son

A **thread** in one hand of the loving mother,
A dress of the parting son in the other.
She **sews stitch by stitch**: his departure's near,
For fear that he won't be home in many a year.
Who can tell, how much should the son **impart**,
To well **reward** the loving mother's heart?

游子吟

慈母手中**线**，游子身上衣。
临行**密密缝**，意恐迟迟归。
谁言寸草心，**报得**三春晖。



What similarities do the two poems have?



They all praise **the unconditional love** of mothers for their children.



Love
Expectations
Patience
Concerns

Parents

Independence
Freedom
Eagerness
Gratitude

Child

**Are you always happy with your parent's
unconditional love?**

Magazine article

Strangers

under the same roof?



Who share the same roof with you?

What makes you **strangers** under the same roof?

Strangers

under the same roof?



Does every dinner with your parents seem to turn into a battle? Have your once warm and open conversations become cold and guarded? Do you feel that you just cannot see eye to eye with them on anything? You are not alone. Heated arguments and cold silences are common between teenagers and their parents.

Pre-reading

Title + Picture + Para. 1

Understanding of the title: strangers under the same roof

Theme: parent-child relationship

Purpose of asking questions: To attract, To provoke thoughts

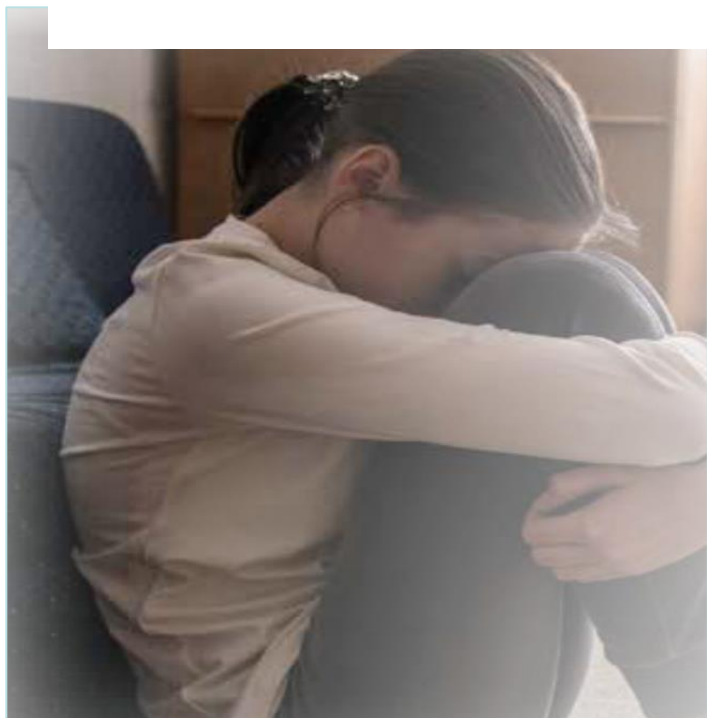
Target audience: Teenagers

Prediction of the contents: reasons and advice

Step2: While-reading

Strangers

under the same roof?



Task1:

Try to figure out the **genre** (体裁) of this passage.

Task2:

Please find out **topic sentences** of each paragraph.

Task1 Try to figure out the genre of the passage.

narration

A narration is a story or account of events.

exposition

An exposition is a detailed explanation of an idea or a theory.



argumentation

An argumentation is a discussion in which you make a point and then provide persuasive and logical evidence to back it up.

The **topic sentence** of each paragraph:

Para. 1 : **Introduction**

Para. 2 : **Cause 1**

Para. 3 : **Cause 2**

Para. 4 : **Solution**

Para. 5 : **Conclusion**

Does every dinner with your parents seem to turn into a battle? Have your once warm and open conversations become cold and guarded? Do you feel that you just cannot see eye to eye with them on anything? You are not alone. Heated arguments and cold silences are common between teenagers and their parents.

Teenagers' physical changes may result in such family tensions. You may feel anxious that you are developing at a different rate to your friends, shooting up in height or getting left far behind. You might worry about your changing voice, weight problems or spots. When it all gets too much, your parents are often the first targets of your anger.

It can be a big headache to balance your developing mental needs too. You enter a strange middle ground---no longer a small child but not quite an adult. you have both a new desire for independence and a continued need for your parents' love and support. You feel ready to be more responsible and make decisions on your own. Unfortunately, your parents do not always agree and that makes you feel unhappy. In addition, when you are struggling to deal with your strong feelings, you may get misunderstood by them---sometimes they forget that growing up is a rough ride. It can be difficult when your parents expect you to act like an adult but still treat you like a child.

Although it may seem impossible to get along as a family, you can take action to improve the situation through regular and honest communication. When you disagree with your parents, take a minute to calm down and try to understand the situation from their point of view. Perhaps they have experienced something similar and do not want you to go through the same pain. After you have thought it through, explain your actions and feelings calmly, listen carefully, and address their concerns. Through this kind of healthy discussion, you will learn when to back down and when to ask your parents to relax their control.

Just remember that it is completely normal to struggle with the stress that parent-child tensions create, and that you and your parents can work together to improve your relationship. The good news is that, with your great efforts, this stormy period will not last. Everything will turn out all right in the end, and the changes and challenges of your teenage years will prepare you for adulthood.

Fast reading

Introduction

It is **common** for teenagers to have difficult relationships with their parents.

Cause 1

Teenagers' **physical growth** may result in such family tensions.

Cause 2

Teenagers' **developing mental needs** can also influence parent-child relationships.

Solution

Teenagers should have regular and honest **communication** with their parents.

Conclusion

Everything will turn out **all right** in the end.

Structure of an argumentative essay

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| Para. 1 | Introduces the topic and state the focus of the essay |
| Paras. 2-3 | Analyze the causes of parent-child tensions |
| Para. 4 | Offers some solutions to this problem |
| Para. 5 | States the conclusion and shows opinions about the topic |

Analyze the problem (Paragraph 2)

Cause 1 Physical changes

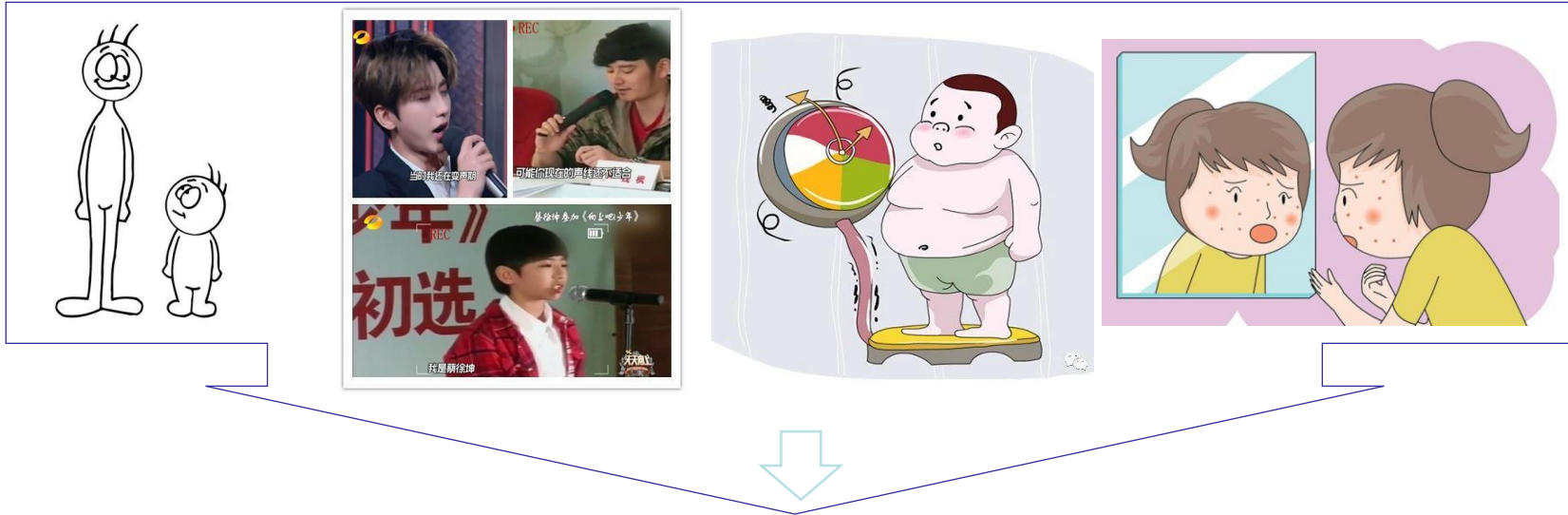
examples:

height

voice

weight

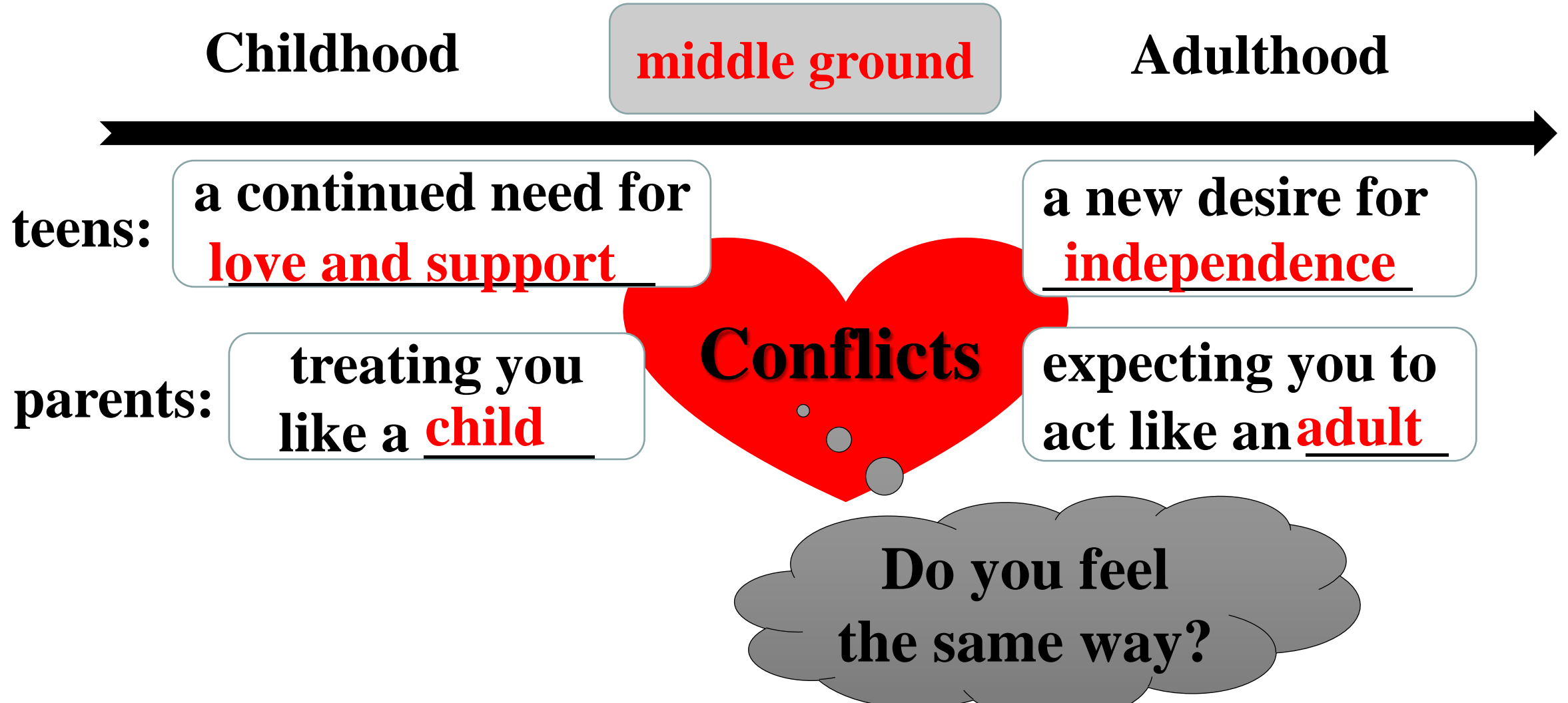
spots



Feelings of anxiety, worry and anger ⇒ The first targets: **parents**

Analyze the problem(Paragraph 3)

Cause 2 Mental needs



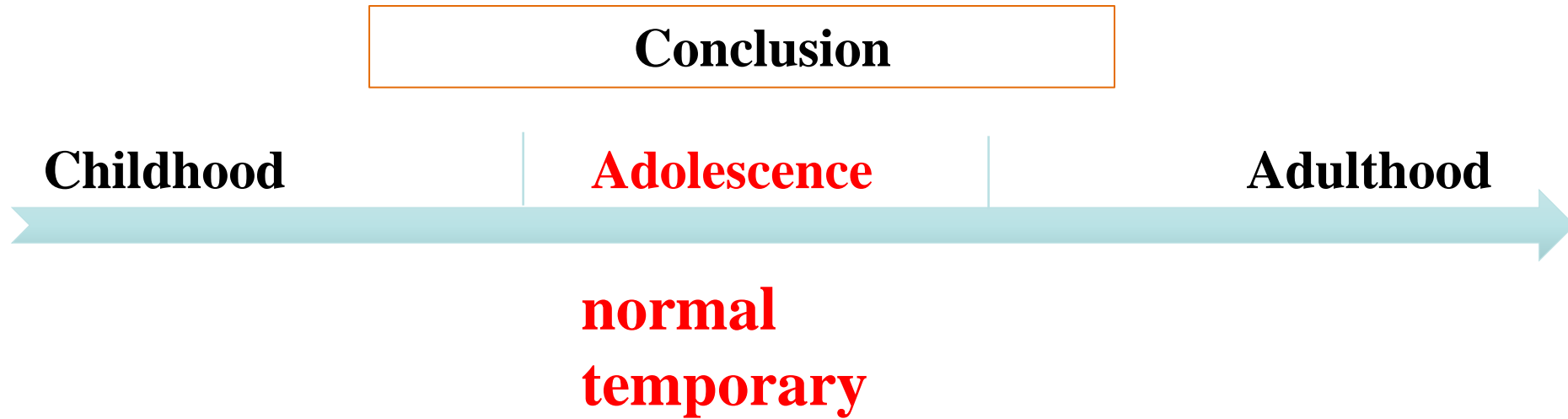
Paragraph 4

Solution

1. Take a minute to calm down.
2. Try to understand the situation from their point of view.
3. Explain your actions and feelings.
4. Listen carefully and address their concerns.

Show empathy for each other 换位思考
Learn to compromise 互相妥协

Para 5



The writer's attitude to parent-child tensions: understandable

Supporting sentences: _____

The writing purpose: To improve your relationship with your parents

Significance of healthy parent-child relationships:

Preparing you for adulthood.

How?

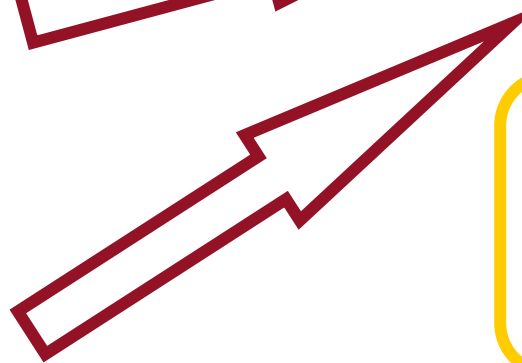
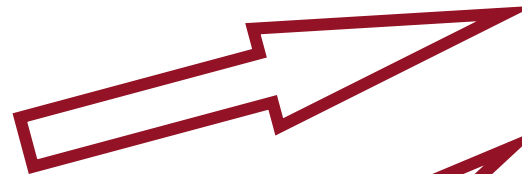
Summary

Why do family members become “



Cause 1:
physical changes

Cause 2:
mental changes

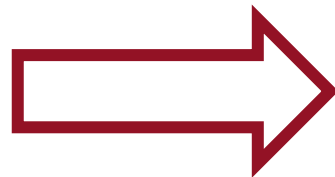


Solution
A regular and honest
communication.

Strangers under the same roof?

Family members living together

are never ever strangers.





You accompany me
to grow up



I accompany you to grow
old!

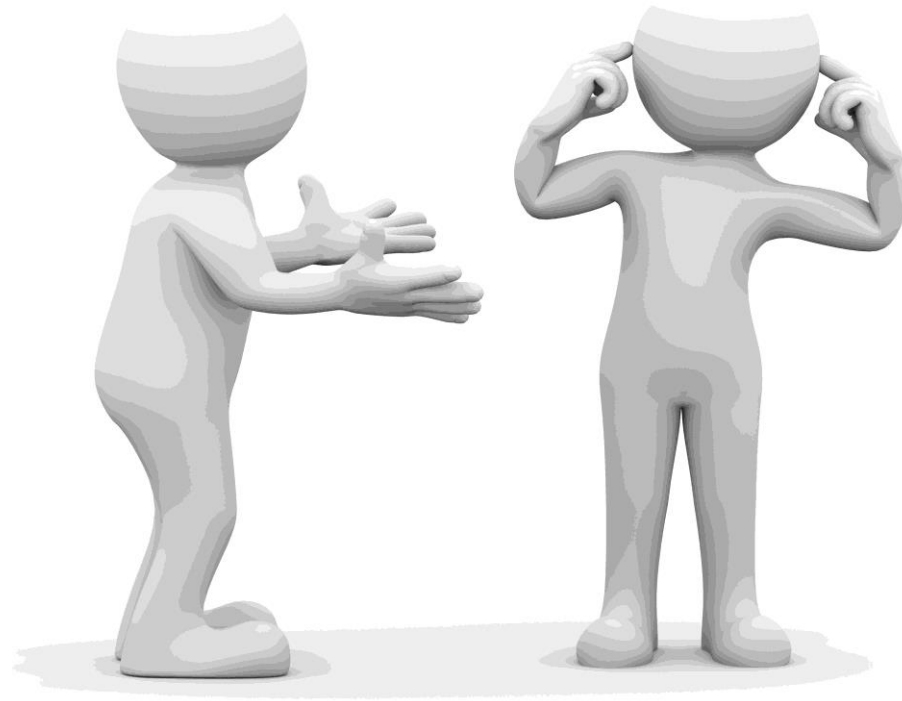


Post-reading

The writer suggests that teenagers want both independence and their parents' love and support. Do you feel the same way? Why or why not? Give an example.

Cooperate with your partners and create a situation where you successfully solve the **conflicts with your parents by following the writer's advice.**

Share your experience



Careful reading

Read the magazine article again carefully and answer the following questions.

1. What physical changes might teenagers worry about?

Their changing voices, weight problems or spots.

2. What does “middle ground” in line 15 mean?

The state of being no longer a small child but not quite an adult.

n. 成年人

3. What does “that” in “that makes you feel unhappy” in line 19 refer to?

Teenagers feel ready to be more responsible and make decisions on their own, but their parents do not always agree.

4. How can teenagers have a healthy discussion with their parents?

When teenagers disagree with their parents, they should take a minute to clam down and try to have thought it through, they should explain their actions and feelings calmly, listen carefully and address their parents’ concerns.

Mrs Zhao wrote an email to a teen magazine. Complete the email with the correct forms of the words and phrases in the box below.

n. 担心, 忧虑; 关心

anxious	argument	concern	calm down
normal	stress	struggle	go through

Dear **Editor**,

n. 主编, 编辑; 剪辑师

I am writing to ask for advice on my relationship with my teenage son. To tell the truth, I often (1) **struggle** to get along with him. Recently we have argued with each other

a great deal. He is (2) **anxious** about his skin because it has started to become very oily, with lots of red spots. He is always angry these days and seems less confident. I keep telling him that these changes are (3) **normal**, and that things will turn out just fine. Of course, I wanted to show my (4) **concern** for his condition, so I asked him to see a doctor. But then he became angry and we had a big (5) **argument**. He told me that I was putting even more (6) **stress** on him by talking about his spots all the time. In the end, I sent him to his room. He finally (7) **calmed down**, but it took some time. The whole experience was really terrible and I do not want to (8) **go through** the same thing again. What should I do?

Best wishes

Mrs Zhao

The article uses some abstract nouns. Note the following suffixes and think of more abstract nouns formed with them. Then fill in the table below with as many words as you can.



Forming abstract nouns

Abstract nouns refer to ideas or qualities. They cannot be physically touched, for example, *ability*, *silence* and *tension*. We can form abstract nouns using certain suffixes. Sometimes the final letter(s) of a word should be left out or changed when we add a suffix, e.g. *silent-silence*, *decide*→*decision*.

Parts of speech	Suffixes	Words
Adjectives	-ce	independence importance difference
	-ty/-ity	honesty safety difficulty ability reality
Nouns	-hood	adulthood childhood neighborhood
	-ship	relationship membership, friendship, leadership
Verbs	-ment	argument movement, development, achievement
	-tion/-sion	communication contribution, preparation, conclusion, decision,
	-th	growth warmth