

Family and Friends

Although friends make an impression on your life, they do not have the same influence that your family has. From family, you learn everything that is important. You learn about trust, ambition, and love. Your family is with you forever. They are not going to leave you because they find another daughter or son they like better. Friends come and go, but family is permanent. You can always trust your family. Your parents are your role models. They will encourage you to do your best, push yourself, and to improve yourself. Friends want you to stay the same; they don't want you to be different. A family's love is not judgmental. They love you for everything you are. Friends may love you because you have a new car or because you go out with them on evenings. Without your family, you would not know what to do. You would not feel as secure.

Discuss your answers to these questions your classmates.

1. Do you have any childhood friends that are still strong today?
2. How are your friendship different now than they were when you were a child?
3. How do you maintain a good friendship?
4. How do you make new friends?
5. How many people do you consider your "best friend"?
6. Who do you think is a "good friend"?
7. Are your friends' important factors in your life?
8. What factors may result in the breakdown of a good friendship?
9. What is the longest friendship that you have had?
10. What makes friends different from family?
11. Should family be like friends?
12. Which one do you prefer to consult, your family or your friends? Why?
13. Which one do you think will give the best advice, your family or your friends?
14. Do you trust your friends to tell them your secrets? How about your family?
15. Which one has the most influence on you, your family or your friends? Why?
16. What do you and your family like to do together?

17. What do you and your friends like to do together?
18. How often does your family get together?
19. How often do you meet your friends?
20. Do you usually have any influence on family matters?
21. Do you usually have any influence on your friends?
22. Do your friends have any influence on you? In what way?
23. Do you get along well with your friends?
24. Do you get along well with your family?
25. Is family the most important influence on young adults? Why?
26. Why do you think some young people like their friends more than their family?

Suggested words to be used in your discussion:

Verbs:	
Encourage sb (in sth): to give sb support, courage or hope: My parents always encouraged me in my choice of career.	Endure: to experience and deal with sth that is painful or unpleasant, especially without complaining: She could not endure the thought of parting
Guide: to direct or influence sb's behavior: He was always guided by his religious beliefs.	Influence: to have an effect on the way that sb behaves or thinks, especially by giving them an example to follow: to be greatly /strongly/ deeply influenced by sth
Maintain: to make sth continue at the same level, standard, etc: The two countries have always maintained close relations.	Protect (sb/sth) (against /from sth): to make sure that sb/sth is not harmed, injured, damaged, etc: Troops have been sent to protect aid workers against attack.
Respect: (not usually used in the progressive tenses) sb/sth (for sth): to have a very good opinion of sb/sth; to admire sb/sth: a much loved and respected teacher	Trust: to have confidence in sb; to believe that sb is good, sincere, honest, etc: you can trust me not to tell anyone.
Nouns	
Ambition: (to be/ do sth)/ (of being/ doing sth) something that you want to do or achieve very much: His burning ambition was to study medicine.	Breakdown: a failure of a relationship, discussion or system: The breakdown of a marriage.

Effect (on sb/sth): a change that sb/sth causes in sb/sth else; a result: the beneficial effects of exercise; Her criticism had the effect of discouraging him completely.	Impact: (of sth) (on sb/sth) the powerful effect that sth has on sb/sth: Her speech made a profound impact on everyone.
Impression (on sb) : the effect that an experience or a person has on sb/sth: My words made no impression on her.	Model: (approving) a person or thing that is considered an excellent example of sth: a model student
Reliance: (on/ upon sb/sth) the state of needing sb/sth in order to survive, be successful, etc; the fact of being able to rely on sb/sth: Heavy reliance on one client is not without risk when building up a business.	Security: the state of feeling happy and safe from danger or worry: the security of a loving family life
Adjectives	
Everlasting: continue forever; never changing: everlasting life/ love	Judgmental: (disapproving) judging people and criticizing them too quickly: Stop always being so judgmental!
Loyal (to sb/sth) : remaining faithful to sb/sth and supporting them or it: a loyal friend/ supporter	Permanent: lasting for a long time or for all time in the future; exciting all the time: they are living together on a permanent basis.
Reliable: that can be trusted to do sth well; that you can rely on: a reliable friend/ supplier /supporter	Secure: feeling happy and confident about yourself or a particular situation: At last they were able to feel secure about the future.
Trustworthy: that you can rely on to be good, honest, sincere, etc.(=reliable)	
Idioms related to the topic	
Be /make friends (with sb): to be a friend of sb	Break /keep faith with sb: to break/ keep a promise that you have made to sb; to stop /continue being loyal to sb
A friend in need: a friend who gives you help when you need it	Leave its mark on sb: to have an effect on sb, especially a bad one that lasts for a long time
Not trust sb an inch: not trust sb at all	