

Lesson 23

With Whom Do You Agree?

1. *My mom has a job.*

Harry : My mom has a job, so she is always busy, whether at home or at work. She is even busy on weekends. She is always too tired to spend time with me. I don't like my mom having a job outside the home. I want her to quit her job and stay home to be with me.

Jane : I know moms with jobs have less time to play with their children. But they have their jobs because of their families. They make extra money so the family can have a better future. We should understand them and try to love them even more while we are with them.

Q1. Who do you agree with?

Q2. What do you do to help your mom?



2. *Study hard!*

Dick : Parents have a duty to force us to study hard. We must obey them. They have a lot of experience with the world, so they know how important it is for us to study. If we understand that they love and care about us, we won't be angry with them. They are our parents, not policemen.



Sally : No parent has a right to force us to do what we don't want. We children have rights. We all know all parents love us. But that doesn't mean they are always right or that we always have to obey them. I think we are old enough to tell right from wrong by ourselves. We can think and behave reasonably. I know we will make a lot of mistakes while growing up. But we must learn from our own mistakes, not our parents'. (And I know that sometimes they make mistakes, too!)

Q1. Who do you think is right?

Q2. Do your parents force you to study, or do they let you pace yourself?


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3. *My mom hates my best friend.*

Tom : My mom wants me to stop seeing one of my friends because she thinks he doesn't study hard enough and is naughty sometimes. But I don't agree. I like him. We have a lot in common, and I enjoy talking with him. I think I have the right to decide who my friends are, not my mom.

Sue : Your mother is afraid your friend is a bad influence on you. She doesn't want you to get lazy in your schoolwork, like your friend is. She doesn't want you to get in trouble, like he does. She knows kids tend to behave the same way their friends do, so she wants you to have friends who behave well — that way, you will also do the right things more easily.



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- Q1. With whom do you agree?
- Q2. Describe your friends. What kinds of activities do you do together?
- Q3. Do you think your friends should study harder than they do, look better, or be more intelligent? Does it matter to you?