

11 form Human Relationships

1. Read *Antoine de Saintexupery's* quotation about human relationships:

"There is no hope of joy except in human relation"

Do you agree with it? Why? Why not?

2. Match the English words and their Russian equivalents:

1) a fierce battleground	а) приносить пользу
2) vulnerable to assault	б) особая связь
3) misuse or deprivation	в) чередовать
4) frustration	г) жестокое поле битвы
5) to thrive	е) тихая гавань, убежище
6) to alternate	ф) ошеломляющий подвиг
7) an overwhelming feat	г) злоупотребление или лишение прав
8) a special bond	h) быть в приподнятом настроении
9) sibling rivalry	и) уязвим для нападения
10) to benefit	ж) разочарование
11) to be elated	к) родственное соперничество
12) a safe haven	л) процветать

3. Read and match the topics with the texts.

A. DIFFICULT RELATIVE

B. CARE AND SUPPORT

C. RENT A GRANNY

D. PLAYING FAVOURITES

E. KEEPING FAMILY TOGETHER

F. BUILDING NEW RELATIONS

G. FAMILY VIOLENCE

1. Unfortunately for many, home can be anything but a safe haven. Men and women alike may find their home a fierce battleground. For children it may be where they are most vulnerable to assault, misuse or deprivation, ironically at the very hands of those who have a duty to safeguard and nourish them. Even the elderly may have reason to fear those who should be their caretakers.

2. When parents are surveyed on the subject of favouritism, nearly all respondents say that despite their best efforts to the contrary, they have favoured one child over another at least occasionally. "I see the frustration and behavior problems in our oldest child resulting from the favoritism their father shows our youngest child," said one parent in response to a recent Vision survey on the topic. "It is a very serious problem in our family."

3. Parents give an enormous amount to their children, and as a result they're extremely invested in them, in helping them grow and thrive. They look out for their interests, stay up with them when they're sick, clean up their messes when they're sick - all of that investment helps the child grow and feel secure.

4. Of course, as your children grow, marry and have children of their own, it is not that easy to spend each holiday together. Be flexible and either alternate holidays or pick a few specific

holidays where the entire family will be together. Sometimes it sounds like an overwhelming feat, especially if you have a large family, but as I said, children, even when they become adults, need those special occasions and traditions and they will go out of their way to make sure they happen.

5. If you are lucky enough to have a sister, you already know that is a special bond unlike any other. Many factors can affect your relationship with your sister as you get older, however, such as age differences, geographic location, new family responsibilities - even sibling rivalry!

6. A new "grannies-for-rent" service in Poland brings together elderly people without families, and people who miss having real grandparents. A local University for the Elderly set up the programme, which aims to benefit people from all generations.

7. If your sister-in-law is much younger than you, then it will be very easy for you to win her over. Little girls love spending time with their big brother's girlfriends, and you're this little girl's big brother's wife, so she's going to be elated to spend time with you. Play together with Barbie dolls, or ask her to help you decorate some Christmas cookies. Become her friend, and take an active interest in her, and she will love you forever.

4. In each paragraph, find the single-root (однокоренное) word to the following words and translate both:

fortune, favour, invest, overwhelm, relation, serve, decorate.

5. Answer the questions:

Are friends more important than family? What do you think?

Are you pressured by your family to act in a certain way?

Do you get along well with your parents, brothers and sisters?

What are your parents like? Do you often argue with your mother or father? What about?

What was the most important thing your parents taught you?

Do you usually have any influence on family matters?

Do you think your parents understand you? Why or why not?

Do your parents trust you?

Which do you think is more important: following the dreams your parents want for you or following your own dreams?

If you were offered an excellent job opportunity abroad, would you consider leaving your family for an indefinite period of time?

How do you feel about your parents growing older? If they could no longer care for themselves, would you let them live with you or put them in a nursing home?

