

GENERATION GAP

Comment on the following picture.

Complete the paragraph with 7 words in the box.



A **generation gap** is a popular term used to describe big _____ between people of a younger generation and their elders. This can be defined as occurring when older and younger people do not understand each other because of their different experiences, opinions, habits and behaviour. The generation gap is the constant struggle of the parents _____ their kids from _____ things that their own experiences and _____ tell them is going to harm them. The kids on the other hand try constantly to prove to the parents that they are equipped to take control of their lives. Neither is wrong – they are both right in their own _____. The parents, blinded by their love for the kids, _____ have their own experiences replace the experiences of their kids. Whereas, the kids are _____ that their decisions are right and are based on current situations and that their parents may not necessarily be aware of.

convinced / would rather / wisdom / differences / for / assumption / doing / to

GROUPWORK: 5 Tips to Bridge the Generation Gap Between Parents and Children!

Match the following paragraphs with their corresponding titles in the box.

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| A. Silence is golden sometimes | B. Learn to accept | C. Communicate constantly |
| D. Be open minded | E. Listen and understand | |

① There cannot be more truth to this than the fact that communication plays an important role in bridging gaps not only between parents and children but also every relationship that we can think of. When we communicate respectfully with our children, we are letting them know that we are willing to do all it takes to lessen the age gap and understand things from their point of view.

② Open mindedness means widening your horizons. When horizons are widened and we open the doors and windows of our heart, we look at things with a new perspective. This helps us understand why what is being said is actually said. This is very important if we want to understand our children's priorities and habits.

③ It takes a lot of effort to understand the younger generation. We have to first accept that we lived in a different world. For us, that was an ideal world with less corruption, less hypocrisy, less cheating and less of every bad thing we see so much increased now.

But then, we will have to accept today's times too, especially the fact that all is not all that bad. And then we have to make the effort to understand and accept our children's perspectives and priorities. That is a big step we can take towards bridging the generation gap.

④ We as parents sometimes tend to talk too idealistic. We will have to stop that. We will have to learn to listen, and then to understand. Giving lectures all the time is not at all a good idea.

⑤ Yes, sometimes, we have to learn to be silent too. We have to let our children voice their opinions and listen to what they are saying, without interrupting them. Let's practice what we have always preached.

These tips are meant to help parents overcome problems with their children.

Can you think of 5 tips to help children solve generation gap problems? Let's suggest 5 titles for our paragraphs.