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Question 6. In groups of four, use the language used in D.5 to give advice in the following situations:

Answer:

My parents don't give me any pocket money. This embarrasses me when I'm with my friends.	Kid 1: Why do not you persuade them to fix an amount as your pocket money? Kid 2: You can try staying at home more or move out more with your parents rather. Kid 1: I would advise you to be with those friends that accept you the way you are. Moreover, you are not that grown up now that you will spend so much money hanging out with such frivolous kids.
	Kid 2: I think you should discuss it with your parents and let them decide.
I stole some money from my mother's purse. I feel very guilty, and I don't know what to do.	Kid 1: Why do not you confess it to you mother? She will definitely understand and will forgive you. Kid 2: You can try giving a sorry card to your mother and promise to her to never to repeat it. Kid 1: I would advise you to never ever repeat what you did and for now you must talk to your parents about it and make a clean breast of it. Kid 2: I think you should tell your father. Maybe he will make your mother understand and also fix an amount as your pocket money.
l lied to my friend. This has spoilt our friendship. I would like to make amends, but I don't know how.	Kid 1: Why do not you try to speak to him/her and apologise for what happened? Kid 2: You can try explaining her/him for why you lied, maybe he/she will forgive you. Kid 1: I would advise you to never back stab a friend and take a lesson from this. Kid 2: I think you should make an honest confession to her/him and win her/him back her/his trust by doing something special.

Question 7. You are on the editorial board for the column 'Your Problems' in The Teenager magazine. You have received these two letters asking for your advice. (They appear to have come from the same family.)

Dear Helpful Avanti

My fifteen year old son is crazy about film music. He seems to be wasting all his pocket money on these meaningless CDs. He cannot even study without this noise. Though he is good at studies, I remain disturbed about this new obsession. There are all kinds of strange-looking posters on the walls of his study and he always wears those gaudy T-shirts and faded patched jeans. Also, he is very fond of Junk-food. I fear he is breaking all links with our culture. What shall I do?

A bewildered father

junk-food = eatables like burgers, chaat papri, etc!

Dear Helpful Avanti

I love film music and I have bought a lot of CDs from my pocket-money allowance. But whenever I switch on my CD-player, my father frowns and orders me to switch off the 'jarring noise'. He calls it 'cheap' and 'uncivilised' stuff. It is not that I do not like classical music, but when I am with my friends, we listen to film music.

I like Indian clothes and food too. But I also like to wear western clothes sometimes and to eat western food occasionally. I do not like to disobey my parents, but I do not want to give up my music etc.

What shall I do?

A Hurt Son

In pairs, decide what advice to give to each of them. Then write one letter each, so that both father and son get a reply from The Teenager. Remember to use some of the language in D5.

Answer:

Reply to the father

Dear Sir,

I understand your concern for your son. Why do not you try to discuss it with him and see what he's got to say? As you told me, he is young and studies hard; I suppose, he is just trying to take his mind off from the heaviness by following these fads. These are the latest trends that kids follow these days. I do not see any harm unless he crosses the limit. I think you should let your son know that you do trust him and want him to live his life the way he wishes. All you need to do is make him understand that he must remember his roots, his culture as well, where he comes from. I think you have a very sensible son and I am sure that he respects his culture and tradition as well.

Sir, it is you and you alone who can make him feel responsible. Once you bestow your faith in him, he will realise and never breach it; only that he will respect and love you more for trusting him. I am not promising you that your son will retire from these trends entirely; however, he will never cross his limits and will always stay grounded to his tradition.

Avanti

Reply to the son

Dear

It is nice that you are keeping up to date with all the latest trends and fads. However, your father seems really worried about you. Why do not you try to see what actually is worrying him so much? I suppose your father is apprehensive about you going so much western. I understand that after all the pressure of studies, you need some time to take your mind off. However, I would advise you to respect your father's sentiments as well. You could think of ways of spending some time with your father and other family members as well. You must reassure your father that you have not forgotten your roots and are grounded to your culture and tradition. I think you need to win your father's confidence and trust. Once your father is certain that you are not abandoning your culture entirely, he will never stop you. However, you need to keep his trust and faith that he bequeaths on you.

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