

READING

- 1 Read this text about birth order quickly. Complete headings A-D with the words in the box.

Eldest child Middle child
Only child Youngest child

BIRTH ORDER

Some people believe your position in your family can change the kind of person you are. Which one are you?

A

You are very careful because you want to do everything right. You were first, so you are the example! You enjoy doing (1) _____ homework, making lists and planning. You (2) _____ like anything unexpected to happen.

B

You consider other people's feelings and hate it when people don't agree. You want (3) _____ to be happy. You're friends (4) _____ all your brothers' and sisters' friends. You can be really funny, too.

C

You never do anything wrong! You are (5) _____ baby of the family, and everyone loves you. You want everyone to watch you. You like people and people like you! Oh, and you really enjoy having surprises!

D

You prefer being with adults, not children your own age. You're good (6) _____ everything you do. You love reading and have a clear view of the world. You hate it when you don't succeed.

2 Read the text again. For questions 1–6 think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only one word in each gap.

3 Which 'child' do you think wrote these comments?

1
I'm just like that. I hate birthdays for that reason – you never know if someone is going to suddenly do something that you didn't know about. I hate that.

Judith, Indonesia

2
I don't know. I mean, I haven't got any brothers or sisters, but I've got a lot of cousins. I don't think that these things are always correct. I don't think they're true!

Cim, Turkey

3
This one is sort of right – I mean, I have got a lot of friends, and people laugh with me at my jokes. But I don't really mind if people are unhappy – you can't be happy all the time!

Zé Miguel, Portugal

4
I hate it when they say things like this! It's just not true! I'm not a baby! Grrrr!

Nini, Peru

4 Match the highlighted words in the text to their meanings.

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| 1 certain or obvious | |
| 2 events that you didn't expect to happen | |
| 3 think carefully about something | |
| 4 organising something for the future | |