





**How is your relationship
with your sibling?**

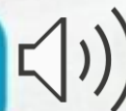


Sibling rivalry

BROTHERLY LOVE?

'I don't get on well with my brother. He's very **different** from me and we argue a lot.'

'Sometimes I want to be alone. But my sister is always there!'



'I can't have secrets when my brother is around. He reads my text messages!'

'My sister uses my things – and she doesn't ask me first! I hate that!'

According to the website GettingPersonal.co.uk, these problems are not unusual. ¹ __ They argue a lot. In general, teenagers are not **worried** about their brothers and sisters when things go badly for them. And they are not **proud** of them when things go well!

But most adults are very **keen** on their brothers and sisters and have a good relationship. So when does the situation change? ² __ For example, Madison is 28 years old. Her brother, Tyler, is 26. 'I remember big fights, horrible fights with Tyler,' says Madison. 'But now, our relationship is completely different. ³ __ We go out together two or three times a month and we have a great time. We're **interested** in the same things.'

But for teenage brothers and sisters with difficult relationships, what can they do? How can they get on well? Here are a few ideas.

- ▶ When your brother or sister uses your things, don't get **angry** about it – learn to share.
- ▶ Imagine your brother or sister is a friend – and be nice!
- ▶ Don't tell people your brother or sister's secrets.
- ▶ ⁴ __

Of course, the other answer is: just wait ten years!

2 Read the **Reading Strategy**. Then match gaps (1–4) in the text with sentences (A–E). Use the questions in the **Strategy** to check that the sentences fit. There is one extra sentence which does not fit any of the gaps.

A According to the website, the answer is: around the age of 25.

B But other brothers and sisters get on well from an early age.

C We get on well – and we don't argue.

D Give your brother or sister some time alone when they need it.

E Most teenagers have a difficult relationship with their brothers and sisters.

3 Read and listen to the complete text. Check your answers to exercise 2.

4 Work in pairs. Choose the best summary of the text: a, b or c. What is wrong with the other summaries?

a A lot of teenagers do not get on well with their brothers and sisters. However, the relationship is usually good when they are adults.

b Some teenagers get on well with their brothers and sisters. These people usually get on well when they are adults too.

c A lot of teenagers do not get on well with their brothers and sisters. The relationship is usually bad when they are adults too, because people don't change.

A decorative graphic consisting of several colored dots (purple, teal, orange, black, and white) and small black crosses scattered around the central text.

prepositions



She is excited about her birthday present.



They are

similar

to

**each
other.**



She is frightened of the horror movies.



He is

proud

of

his son.



She is worried about the exam.



He is

interested

in

insects.



He is

angry

about

**computer
bugs .**



- 5 **VOCABULARY** Read the **Learn this!** box. Then look at the highlighted adjectives in the text. What prepositions follow them? Complete the table.

Adjectives and prepositions

1 angry _____	4 keen _____
2 different _____	5 proud _____
3 interested _____	6 worried _____

- 6 **SPEAKING** Interview a classmate who has a brother or sister. Complete these questions with the correct prepositions. Then ask and answer the questions. Give examples.

- 1 Are you similar **to** your brother or sister?
- 2 Are you interested _____ the same things?
- 3 Are you good _____ the same school subjects?
- 4 Are you keen _____ the same TV programmes?
- 5 Are your brother or sister's hobbies different _____ yours?

Are you similar to your brother or sister?

Yes, I am. / No, I'm not.