

Unit 23

Growing up

Words used to describe parents and children

Learn the expressions

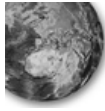
1 In this unit, you read about the relationship between parents and children. Let's now look at adjectives that may describe both. Complete the definitions with the adjectives in the box. Tip: do the ones you are confident about first. Then check your answers in the Answer Key on this page.

demanding	caring	nosy	nurturing	obedient
overprotective	rebellious	respectful	spoiled	supportive

- A parent who does things to help his or her child in a difficult situation is *supportive*.
- A parent who is always trying to find out private information about his or her teenager is _____
- A child who always follows orders, rules, and suggestions of his or her parents is _____
- A parent who genuinely tries to help his or her child to grow and develop into a good human being is _____
- A child who is rude and behaves badly because he or she always gets what he or she wants is _____
- A child who thinks about his or her brother or sister's feelings is _____
- A child who demonstrates admiration for and a positive attitude towards his or her playmates is _____
- A parent who does too much to prevent his or her child from being harmed is _____
- A child who always disobeys parents and people in authority is _____
- A child who makes the parents use a lot of their time and attention is _____

Answer Key

- | | |
|---------------|-------------------|
| 1. supportive | 6. caring |
| 2. nosy | 7. respectful |
| 3. obedient | 8. overprotective |
| 4. nurturing | 9. rebellious |
| 5. spoiled | 10. demanding |



Use the expressions

2 Complete the sentences with the adjectives in the box.

demanding	caring	nosy	nurturing	obedient
overprotective	rebellious	respectful	spoiled	supportive

- Hillary is having a hard time in school because her teachers are too _____. They expect students to do hours of homework every day.
- Jason came into his room and found his _____ little sister reading his emails. He really let her have a piece of his mind.
- Many children go through a _____ stage, when they deliberately disobey their parents and other authority figures.
- Jamie, Can you be a little more _____ and look at me when I'm talking to you? I think it's the least your mother deserves!
- It's perfectly normal for parents to want to keep their children from danger, but Mrs. Wong is _____. She won't let Steven and Sarah out of her sight!
- Nancy is very _____, and she can always tell when something is wrong. Whenever one of her siblings has a problem, she notices it right away.
- I hate to say this, but the children who live next door are _____ brats. Their parents and grandparents always give them everything they want.
- Christy's parents are really _____. They help her with her homework, encourage her to ask questions, and they are constantly explaining things to her.
- Tom's family has always been _____ of his plans and dreams, but they were very unhappy when he announced he was going to marry Helen.
- Wendy is _____ when she's at home with her family, but she's always misbehaving in school. She gets into a lot of trouble.

Make the expressions your own

3 Which three adjectives in this unit best define you? Which two definitely don't apply to you? Complete the sentences with information that is true for you.

- Three adjectives that define my personality are _____, _____, and _____. For example, I . . .
- Nobody can say I'm _____ or _____. Why? Well, because . . .