

Total English

Upper Intermediate

Family connections

- 1 You are going to go on the Internet to find out about family life. Type in <http://www.ed-u.com/parenting.htm>. Scroll down to the section **The sort of parent every child needs** and answer questions 1-10.
 - 1 When did the writer fully appreciate that he had had the best dad a child could wish for?
 - 2 What did the writer's father give him and his siblings throughout their upbringing?
 - 3 How did the writer's father feel when his children made fun of other people's misfortunes?
 - 4 What did the writer do to avoid his father punishing him when he had really angered his father one time?
 - a tell him a story
 - b apologise
 - c offer to help in the garden
 - 5 What lesson did the writer learn from his father's reaction to d) above?
 - 6 According to Dostoyevsky what type of memory is a hugely positive one to carry through life?
 - 7 Despite often being hungry, what made the writer's childhood a really happy one?
 - 8 What positive things came out of the writer's childhood that necessitated lots of physical chores everyday?
 - 9 What has often been the reason for children responding quickly to resolving a family battle?
 - 10 What does the writer believe draws a parent and child closer?
- 2 Now work with your partner. Read back through the article and write down six new words below.

1 _____	3 _____	5 _____
2 _____	4 _____	6 _____

Check their meaning in your monolingual dictionary.
- 3 Discuss in pairs.
 - 1 What do you think of the type of childhood the writer had?
 - 2 How it helped him develop as a person?
 - 3 Do you agree with his father's beliefs?

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TEACHER'S NOTES:

Aim: to use the Internet to explore the theme of connections. This webquest is designed to be used in conjunction with unit 1.

Time: 40 minutes

Materials: photocopies of the worksheet for each student

- 1 Explain to the class that they are going to go on the internet to look at a website which examines family life - it is one person's story reflecting back on their life and experiences as a child and father. Check that all students are on the correct website. Monitor as they do the questions to check that everyone is able to find the answers. Elicit answers from the students.

Answers: (correct at the time of going to press) 1 Later on in his life when he was agonising over his own teenagers. (para 1) 2 consideration (para 2) 3 He didn't think it at all funny and wouldn't tolerate his children acting in this way. (para 3) 4 apologise (para 4) 5 by all means chastise children but as soon as they are truly, sorry forgive them (para 5) 6 a memory connected with childhood and home (para 6) 7 The fact that his parents gave the children time and attention on a daily basis, e.g. meals together (para 7) 8 qualities such as self-discipline, concentration and perseverance - all vital qualities for being a father oneself (para 8) 9 When parents are humble enough to admit that their expectations may have been unclear or unfair. (para 10) 10 loyalty (para 11)

- 2 This is a vocabulary rich article, so students have a chance to note down six new words. Increase this to ten if appropriate. Ask students to check their new words in a dictionary. Monitor this activity to check that students are clear on any differences between American and British spelling. Elicit students' answers and encourage peer correction.
- 3 Ask students to discuss the three questions in pairs. Ask pairs to group up with another pair to compare ideas before getting feedback from the class.