

READERS' ADVICE

- 1 Children always need the support of their parents, whether they're four or 24. I think you should pay for him to get some qualifications, and when he's ready, ___ to find somewhere to live. Meanwhile, ___ him all the love that he needs.

Jenny Torr

Brighton

- 2 I decided to give it all up and change my life dramatically three years ago. Since then, ___ the most exciting three years of my life. It can be scary, but if you don't do it, you won't know what you've missed. I don't think ___. Go for it.

Mike Garfield

Manchester

- 3 He's using you.' I think ___. It's time for him to go. Twenty-four is too old to be living with his parents. He's got to take responsibility for himself. And ___ about his drug-taking. Sometimes you have to be cruel to be kind.

Tony Palmer

Harrow

- 4 Why ___ it? He isn't their slave, they don't own him. And I also can't stand the way people use their mobiles in restaurants, on trains and buses. They think that the people around them are invisible and can't hear.

- 3 Where do these lines go? Put a letter in the gaps.

- a ... you should tell him to leave home.
- b ... she should be very careful ...
- c ... you should help him ...
- d ... you should worry.
- e He must keep it!
- f ... before making a decision.
- g It is so rude.
- h ... he's very lucky.
- i I have had...
- j ... you must tell the police ...
- k ... you've got to give ...
- l ... should he accept ...

T 8.5 Listen and check.

- 4 Which letter writer ... ?

- suggests waiting
- thinks love is the answer
- has been adventurous
- thinks that employers shouldn't exploit their employees
- loves mobile phones
- suggests being tough

The readers make very different suggestions. Who do you agree with?

What do you think?

- How old are children when they leave home in your country?
- What do you think of people who use mobile phones in public?

- 4 Why ____ it? He isn't their slave, they don't own him. And I also can't stand the way people use their mobiles in restaurants, on trains and buses. They think that the people around them are invisible and can't hear. ____.

Jane Sands
London

- 5 I think ____ before she gives up her job and goes to live abroad. Does she think that the sun will always shine? If there is something in her life that makes her unhappy now, this will follow her. She should take her time ____.

Nigella Lawnes
Bristol

- 6 ____ ! He should have a word with his company and come to an arrangement with them. Why can't he turn it off sometimes? Mobile phones are great, and if he's got one for free, ____ . They are one of the best inventions ever.

Pete Hardcastle
Birmingham

- How old are children when they leave home in your country?
- What do you think of people who use mobile phones in public?
- Do you think older people should act their age? Why/Why not?
- 'You have to be cruel to be kind'. Can you think of an example?

Roleplay

With a partner, choose a situation and roleplay the conversation.

- Polly and one of her friends
- Jason and his boss
- Sarah and her husband

Group work

In groups, write a letter to a problem page.

Exchange your letters and write a reply. Try to express sympathy with the problem and give some explanation, as well as practical advice.