

## Family Matters

**Directions:** Read each sentence and write the missing word(s) in the space provided. Choose from the words in the list. Not all words will be used. Then follow the directions in *Your Opinion*.

<b>Siblings</b>	<b>Empty nest</b>	<b>Harmony</b>	<b>Relationships</b>
<b>Sibling rivalry</b>	<b>Blended</b>	<b>Structure</b>	<b>Family life cycle</b>
<b>Traditions</b>	<b>Age span</b>	<b>Extended</b>	<b>Launching</b>

- The \_\_\_\_\_ is a series of stages that families go through as they grow and change.
- Brothers and sisters are \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ is the number of years between siblings.
- In the \_\_\_\_\_ stage, teens and young adults begin to leave the family home.
- \_\_\_\_\_ is competition for the love and attention of parents.
- A(n) \_\_\_\_\_ family includes relatives besides the parents and children.
- Children learn about their family's cultural heritage and \_\_\_\_\_ within the family.
- Although couples in the \_\_\_\_\_ stage may have more time to enjoy their own interests, there may be an adjustment period as children leave.
- You get out of family \_\_\_\_\_ what you put into them.
- When all family members function in \_\_\_\_\_, the family is happier and more effective.

### Your Opinion

Do you agree with the statement in question 9? Why or why not? On separate paper, explain your answer. Support your answer with at least two examples.

# Family Ties

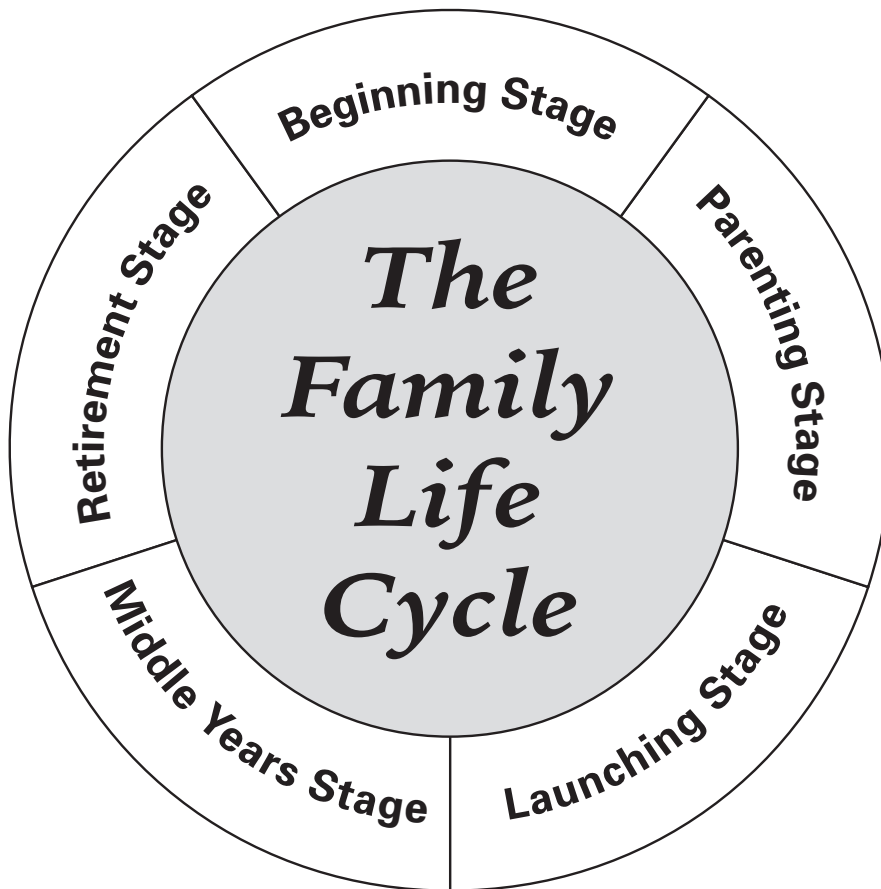
**Directions:** Circle the letters of all the answers that correctly complete each statement.

<b>1. Families are important because they <u>?</u>.</b>	
A. Are the building blocks of society	E. Are independent societies
B. Give emotional support to members	F. Pass on culture and traditions
C. Are all different	G. Meet basic needs
D. Teach values	H. Make choices
<b>2. Different kinds of families include <u>?</u>.</b>	
A. Single-parent family	E. Adoptive family
B. Elderly family	F. Foster family
C. Nuclear family	G. Peer-group family
D. Blended family	H. Extended family
<b>3. Roles a person in a family might play are <u>?</u>.</b>	
A. Income earner	D. Student
B. Son	E. At-home parent
C. Mayor	F. Grandparent
<b>4. The family life cycle includes the <u>?</u>.</b>	
A. Retirement stage	D. Beginning stage
B. Married stage	E. Parenting stage
C. Adulthood stage	F. Launching stage
<b>5. Some ways to build family strength are by <u>?</u>.</b>	
A. Limiting your share of responsibilities	D. Showing love and appreciation
B. Spending time together	E. Being tolerant and forgiving
C. Taking separate vacations	F. Sharing beliefs, values, and goals
<b>6. Ways to improve family relationships include <u>?</u>.</b>	
A. Sharing your thoughts and feelings	D. Showing appreciation
B. Reacting without thinking	E. Being responsible and dependable
C. Showing respect for one another	F. Really knowing family members
<b>7. To make time for each other, family members can <u>?</u>.</b>	
A. Start new traditions	D. Refuse to do any chores
B. Volunteer together	E. Use everyday moments to communicate
C. Cook or bake together	F. Follow their own interests

## Variations on the Family Life Cycle

**Directions:** The stages in the circle diagram below represent the typical pattern most families go through as family members grow and develop. Not every family follows this exact pattern. On separate paper, draw a variation of this typical family life cycle, incorporating one or more of the family situations listed below. There are many possible variations. If you wish, use a different diagram style to show the cycle with the variations you want to include. Briefly describe each stage in your diagram. Then follow the directions in *A Deeper Look*.

1. Single parent family
2. Blended family
3. Foster family
4. Grandparent raising grandchildren
5. Adult child and spouse move back with parents



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### A Deeper Look

What joys and challenges might be unique to the types of families listed above? Write your ideas on separate paper.