

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*You are reading an article about family communication in a newsletter for parents.  
Read the article.*

### Text 2 Newsletter article

#### PARENTS' CORNER



Dr Robert Wong



## Families in **trouble**

By Dr Robert Wong

① I meet a lot of families at my practice, and in 90% of cases, their troubles boil down to one issue: communication breakdown. With new technology, this issue is worsening. There are more and more distractions keeping us from enjoying quality family time. I see parents and children daily who pay more attention to their mobile phones than to the people around them. They constantly send messages, play games and visit social networking sites on their phones.

② Two months ago, an 11-year-old boy came to me desperate for advice. Though he was frequently surrounded by family, Charles felt isolated. It's true that his family ate meals together and even had regular family outings, but during this time his parents were often glued to their phones. One day during dinner, the inevitable happened. While his parents were typing text messages and surfing the Internet at the table, Charles' anger reached boiling point and he exploded into a yelling fit.

③ Charles' behaviour was not appropriate, but it was understandable. The underlying communication problem needed solving. Therefore, I advised their family to have phone-free evenings. Every day at 6 p.m., everyone had to shut off their phones and chat about their days or current events. After a week, they stopped fighting and started laughing and joking instead.

④ Reducing phone use is a change all families can make without any real effort. We must remember that our families are more important than our phones, and commit ourselves to real face-to-face communication.

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**Comprehension 2** You are completing a quiz based on the newsletter article. Answer the questions using information from the newsletter article. For multiple-choice questions, choose the best answer and blacken ONE circle only.

1 According to the writer, what is the main cause of most family problems?

\_\_\_\_\_

2 Who does 'them' refer to in line 5?

\_\_\_\_\_

3 According to the newsletter article, how is new technology making family problems worse?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4 Find a word in paragraph 1 that means the opposite of 'rarely'.

\_\_\_\_\_

5 Use ONE word to complete each blank.

A boy, who was \_\_\_\_\_ year old, visited Dr Wong because he  
\_\_\_\_\_ needed advice.

6 Find a phrase in paragraph 2 that means 'gave all their attention to'.

\_\_\_\_\_

7 Complete the following summary using information from paragraph 2. Use ONE word for each blank. Answers must be grammatically correct.

Charles felt a great deal of \_\_\_\_\_ despite the fact that he was often \_\_\_\_\_ by family. \_\_\_\_\_ family meals together and going on frequent \_\_\_\_\_ was not enough. Charles wanted to feel that he was actually connecting and communicating with his parents.

8 i) What was the 'behaviour' Dr Wong referred to in line 14?

\_\_\_\_\_

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- ii) Why does Dr Wong say that Charles's behaviour 'was not appropriate, but it was understandable'. Why was it not appropriate? Why was it understandable?

Not appropriate: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Understandable: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- 9 Complete the following table about Dr Wong's advice to Charles.

Dr Wong's advice	Result of Dr Wong's advice
have i) _____ _____	the family ii) _____ _____ and started iii) _____ _____

- 10 What two topics did Dr Wong suggest Charles' family could talk about?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



- 11 What do you think Dr Wong's job is? Explain your answer.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- 12 What is the tone of the article?

A encouraging

B formal

C academic

D critical

A B C D

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- 13 Do you agree with Dr Wong that reducing phone use is a change 'all families can make without any real effort'? Explain your answer.

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\_\_\_\_\_