

B2.8 Children and Parents - Handout

- 1 These questions introduce the topic of children and parenting. They normally stimulate discussion. Even if you and your partner do not have children, you are sure to have opinions about the way you were raised, and whether your parents were exemplary or made significant mistakes. Key vocabulary includes: *to bring up* (often confused with *to grow up*), *grateful*, *to make sacrifices*, *to owe sb. sth.*, *to spoil sb.*, *pocket money* and *to adopt*.
- 2 These controversial opinions are designed to stimulate discussion. You and your partner should say to what extent you agree, or disagree, with each speaker and give reasons. The texts can also be read aloud by the native speaker, then the learner, for pronunciation purposes. Key vocabulary includes: *bully*, *to raise a hand in anger*, *inappropriate*, *high heels*, *discipline*, *corporal punishment* (not to be confused with *capital punishment!*), *to raise a voice*, *to instil respect*, *Sunday school*, *atheist*, *cooker*, *hoover*, and *truck*.
- 3 This collaborative fairy story should be constructed jointly by you and your partner. Each time you continue the story, you should incorporate into the plot one of your images. Remind your partner that all fairy stories begin, "Once upon a time..." and finish, "...and they all lived happily ever after." Key vocabulary includes: *dragon*, *witch*, *genie*, *treasure (chest)*, *king*, *elf/pixie*, *wizard*, *frog/toad*, *to cast a spell*, *hill* and *river*.
- 4 Your partner may find it too contrived, or too much of a feat of memory, to write the story that you both have just orally created together. But if they write a short fairy story of any kind, then that will provide a good opportunity to practise narrative tenses: Past Continuous for setting the scene (e.g. "*The sun was shining...*"), Past Perfect for the past of the past (e.g. "*He had visited a witch before he saw the frog.*") and (mostly) Past Simple (e.g. "*rode/saw/cast etc.*").