

Young & Old: Lessons from Each Other

Intermediate (B1-B2)



WARM-UP DISCUSSION

Part 1. Read the quotes below. Choose one that feels most meaningful to you and explain why.

"The great thing about being young is that you have more time."

"You are never too old to learn, and never too young to teach."

"You don't have to be rich to be happy."

We don't stop playing because we grow old; we grow old because we stop playing." – George Bernard Shaw

Discuss:

- What do you think each quote says about age and happiness?
- Do you think older and younger people understand each other well today?
- What do you think young and old people could learn from each other?



Part 2. Look at the four photos showing different stages of life. Choose the photo that catches your attention most and discuss the questions.



1. What do you think is happening in this moment?
2. What feelings or memories does this photo bring to mind?
3. What can people at this stage of life teach others?

VIDEO ACTIVITY

Part 1. You're going to watch a short conversation between a 7-year-old boy and a 64-year-old man. They talk about childhood, getting older, happiness, and love.

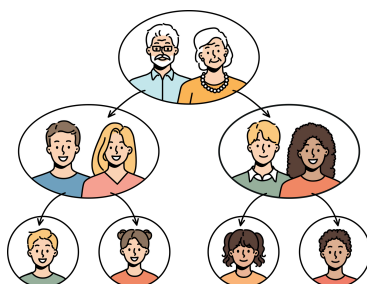
Discuss:

1. What do you think is the best thing about being young?
2. What do you think is the best thing about being older?
3. What might surprise each of them in the conversation?

Part 2. Watch the video "57 Years Apart – A Boy And a Man Talk About Life."

Part 3. Discuss the following questions.

1. Which part of their conversation did you find most touching or memorable?
2. Did anything they say surprise you?
3. What did the younger boy teach the older man, and what did the older man teach the younger boy?
4. Do you agree with the older man when he says, "You don't have to be rich to be happy"?



SPEAKING

Part 1. Talk about both sides of being young and growing older.

1. What's the best thing about being young?
2. What's the hardest thing about being young?
3. What's the best thing about getting older?
4. What's the hardest thing about getting older?
5. What's one thing people should do to stay young at heart?

Useful phrases:

- *I think the best part is...*
- *It's not easy because...*
- *I try to...*
- *I've realised that...*

Part 2. Look at the list below and talk about how our feelings or ideas about these things might change as we get older. Give personal examples if you can.

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| • School | • Love |
| • Free time | • Family |
| • Money | • The future |
| • Friendship | • Happiness |

Discuss:

- Which of these have changed most for you over time?
- Which ones do you think shouldn't change, no matter how old we are?



Part 3. Talk about the prompts below.

- 1.If you could give advice to your younger self, what would it be?
- 2.If you could ask advice from your older self, what would you ask?
- 3.Who in your life gives good advice, and why?
- 4.What's the best piece of advice you've ever received?

Useful expressions:

- *If I could go back...*
- *I've learnt that...*
- *One thing I wish I'd known is...*
- *The advice I'd give is...*

REFLECTION

Complete each sentence in your own words.

- I'll always remember when...
- Growing older means...
- Being young feels...
- Happiness is not about being rich, it's about...
- I hope when I'm older, I still...

