

## They didn't believe in rules

**In this lesson** - Compare how strict your parents were

**Core activities** - 1a, 2-6, 8

**Vocabulary** - make, let and allow

Examples:

*My parents made me go to piano lessons every week.*

(active)

*I was made to go to piano lessons every week.*

(passive)

*They allow their staff to take an extra 15-minute break.*

(active)

*Their staff are allowed to take an extra 15-minute break.*

(passive)

*Ben's mum lets him choose his own clothes.*

(active)

See 'Language reference' (Teacher's book page 103)

# 18 They didn't believe in rules

In this lesson: Compare how strict your parents were  
Vocabulary: *make, let and allow*

## Introduction

1 a Draw lines to match the words on the left with the words that have contrasting meanings on the right.

gifted	well-brought-up
lenient	untalented
spoil	strict

b Work with a partner. Use the words from **activity 1a** to complete the sentences.

- 1 A lenient parent doesn't believe in strong discipline.
- 2 A \_\_\_\_\_ person is very intelligent, or has a natural ability for something.
- 3 A \_\_\_\_\_ parent makes sure their children behave well and don't break rules.
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_ children are badly behaved because they can do and have what they want.
- 5 A \_\_\_\_\_ child is quiet and behaves politely.
- 6 An \_\_\_\_\_ person doesn't have any special abilities.



## Listening

2 **CD 53** Listen to Dawn talk about homeschooling her daughter, Magenta. Answer the questions.

- a Why did Dawn take Magenta out of school?
- b Does Magenta enjoy studying at home?

3 **CD 53** Listen again. Who does the underlined pronoun in each statement refer to? Write P (Magenta's parents), T (Magenta's teachers) or C (the children at Magenta's school).

- a They didn't let Magenta have any freedom. T
- b They made Magenta sit down all day and study traditional subjects. \_\_\_\_\_
- c They weren't allowed to do the things they really enjoyed. \_\_\_\_\_
- d They were made to study exactly the same thing at the same time. \_\_\_\_\_
- e They allowed Magenta to leave school when she was 11. \_\_\_\_\_
- f They don't make Magenta do anything she doesn't want to. \_\_\_\_\_

4 Work with a partner. Tick (✓) the sentences in **activity 3** which talk about giving or withholding permission. Put a cross (X) next to the sentences which talk about forcing or not forcing someone to do something.

example a They didn't let Magenta have any freedom. T ✓

5 Do you think Magenta's mother is a good parent? Why or why not?

## Introduction

### 1a

Go over the instructions and check understanding. Learners draw lines to match the words on the left with the words that have contrasting meanings on the right. Monitor and assist as necessary.

Feedback as a class.

### 1a answers

gifted - **untalented**  
lenient - **strict**  
spoil - **well-brought-up**

### 1b

Go over the instructions and example to check understanding. Learners work with a partner and use the words from **activity 1a** to complete the sentences.

Monitor and assist as necessary.

Feedback as a class.

### 1b answers

- 1) A **lenient** parent doesn't believe in strong discipline.
- 2) A **gifted** person is very intelligent, or has a natural ability for something.
- 3) A **strict** parent makes sure their children behave well and don't break rules.
- 4) **Spoil** children are badly behaved because they can do and have what they want.
- 5) A **well-brought-up** child is quiet and behaves politely.
- 6) An **untalented** person doesn't have any special abilities.

## Listening

### 2

Go over the instructions and check understanding. Elicit or explain the meaning of *homeschooling* ('educating a child at home, instead of sending them to school').

**CD 53** Learners listen and answer the questions. Monitor and assist as necessary.

Feedback as a class. Accept any reasonable answers.

### 2a+b suggested answers

- a) Magenta was bored, badly behaved and got bad grades.
- b) Yes (Dawn says Magenta is 'much happier').

### Extension

You may like to ask learners to use the words from **activity 1** to describe Dawn, Magenta and Magenta's teachers.

### CDS script 53 (page 96, Student book) 1:39

Well, it's not easy having a daughter like Magenta. A lot of people say she's badly behaved, but they just don't seem to understand that this is because she's so intelligent. You have to realise that... Look, the thing is, Magenta gets bored so easily, and strong discipline was never going to help her.

She used to go to a regular school, but the teachers didn't let her have any freedom. They just made her sit down all day and study traditional subjects like maths and history... In fact, all the children were made to study exactly the same thing at the same time, and were never allowed to do the things they enjoyed. Magenta just hated it. That's why her grades were so bad, and it's also why she was so rude to all her teachers.

My husband and I allowed Magenta to leave school when she was 11. She's coming up to 15 now, so we've been teaching her at home for almost four years. I admit that it's been quite hard work, but Magenta's much happier, because we don't make her do anything she doesn't want to. Neither of us believe in having too many rules and... like... well, we think children should be allowed to study what they want to. Which is, you know, why Magenta is learning about dressmaking and acupuncture. Because, like, these are the things she is really passionate about.

### 3a-f

Go over the instructions and example to check understanding.

**CD 53** Learners listen again and write P (Magenta's parents), T (Magenta's teachers) or C (the children at Magenta's school) to say who the underlined pronoun in each statement refers to. Monitor and assist as necessary. Feedback as a class.

### 3a-f answers

See activity 4 answers

### 4

In pairs, learners tick the sentences in **activity 3** which talk about giving or withholding permission, and put a cross next to the sentences which talk about forcing or not forcing someone to do something.

### 3a-f answers - in bold, 4 answers - underlined

- a) They didn't let Magenta have any freedom. **T** ✓
- b) They made Magenta sit down all day and study traditional subjects. **T** ✓
- c) They weren't allowed to do the things they really enjoyed. **C** ✓
- d) They were made to study exactly the same thing at the same time. **C** ✓
- e) They allowed Magenta to leave school when she was 11. **P** ✓
- f) They don't make Magenta do anything she doesn't want to. **P** ✓

### 5

Take brief responses to the questions as a way of rounding off the listening section.

