

should schools teach kids manners ?

Supernanny Jo Frost says...

NO



I think the news that teenagers will be taught to say "please" and "thank you" in special lessons at school is sad. By the time children get to school, manners should be automatic.

Schools used to be about education – not finding time to make up for what parents should be doing. The fact we're introducing classes on social and emotional intelligence shows how difficult things are. But while it's good to support teenagers, schools should be working with the home – that's where values should be laid down and families help to create a positive cycle we can pass on to the next generation.

I think older people who grew up with a certain level of courtesy are particularly scared of today's youngsters – they feel defenseless in a society that's decreasing in manners.

But it would be unfair to say all children are like this. I know many parents for whom it's second nature to instill good manners and social skills.

A lot of the time it comes down to confidence, and I feel many parents have lost this. They're questioning themselves, and they don't have the same support they had 30 years ago – there's not such a tight family network now.

Gone too are the days when parents could speak to their children however, they liked – and command their respect regardless. I often hear teenagers in dysfunctional families say to their parents, "How can I have respect for you when you shout abuse at me?"

Children copy your own behavior, and that's how you know you're doing wrong. If you want respect, I suggest you show your child respect.

Woman, February 19, 2007

A/ Read the text then say true (T) or false (F):

- 1- It's the school's job to teach teenagers manners. (.....)
- 2- Kids should have been taught manners at an early age at home. (.....)
- 3- School can play the parents' role to implant values and manners in young children. (.....)
- 4- School should work hand in hand with parents to support teenagers. (.....)
- 5- Old people are optimistic about today's youngsters. (.....)



B/ Answer the following questions:

1- Are all children lacking manners? Justify.

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2- Do all parents fail to teach their kids good manners? Justify.

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3- How was family relationship in the past?

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4- Why don't some teenagers, now, show respect for their parents?

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5- Who does Supernanny put the blame on?

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C- what do the following words nearly mean? circle the right option:

• **Courtesy** = showing a- anger b- good manners c- sadness

• **Instill** = cause someone to a- commit mistakes b- behave badly c- acquire good qualities

What is the stressed syllable in the following words:

Emotional / dysfunctional

• **Notice** that words ending in -al have the main stress on the third syllable from the end.

• Find other words ending in -al and practice saying them.

Find the stressed syllable in the following words:

Education / generation

• **Notice** that words ending in -tion have the main stress on the last but one syllable.

• Do you know other words that end in -tion.

What are they? practise saying them.