

Are You a Good Communicator?

By Anna Culp

Take this quiz to learn more about the best ways to communicate.



1. You are reading a book when your brother asks if you want to hear about his day. You say,

- A. "Not now. I'm in the middle of this chapter."
- B. "Sure! Just let me put this bookmark in."

2. Your parents invite you to go on a walk with them. You—

- A. walk and talk with them.
- B. tell them you are too busy with your computer game.

3. At family home evening, your sister is teaching the lesson. You—

- A. sit quietly and plan what you're going to do after family home evening.
- B. look at her and think about what she is teaching.

4. Every morning, your dad makes you breakfast. You—

- A. thank him and tell him what you liked about breakfast.
- B. are thankful but don't say anything because he already knows.

5. Your friend tells you something you disagree with. You say,

- A. "You're so wrong! You shouldn't think that."
- B. "We think differently about that. Could you explain your view?"

6. Your cousin tells you about a surprise party for your friend and asks you not to tell anyone. You are excited, so you—

- A. keep the information to yourself and make a birthday card.
- B. tell your friends so they can be excited about it too.

7. Your brother trips on a book you left on the floor and yells at you. You say,

- A. "I've told you a million times to watch where you're walking!"
- B. "I'm sorry I left the book there. Are you hurt?"

Best Answers

1. B: Make time for family. Sometimes opportunities for good communication arise when you're least expecting them. (See "Communicating with Your Parents," *New Era*, Feb. 2008, 12.)

2. A: Be open to talking and listening. Elder M. Russell Ballard said, "Nothing is more important to the relationship between family members than open, honest communication" ("Like a Flame Unquenchable," *Ensign*, May 1999, 86–87).

3. B: Listen to what others say to show respect and love. A Primary song explains, "Reverence is more than just quietly sitting: It's thinking of Father above . . . I'm rev'rent, for rev'rence is love" ("Reverence Is Love," *Children's Songbook*, 31).

4. A: Say thank you. President Thomas S. Monson counseled, "Always express your thanks" ("Finding Joy in the Journey," *Ensign*, Nov. 2008, 86).

5. B: Understand that it is OK to disagree, but be humble and kind. Christ taught, "Judge not, that ye be not judged" (Matthew 7:1).

6. A: Avoid gossip and be trustworthy. King Solomon said that someone who gossips "revealeth secrets: but he that is of a faithful spirit concealeth the matter" (Proverbs 11:13).

7. B: Be kind instead of angry. The Apostle Paul wrote, "Be ye kind . . . , forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you" (Ephesians 4:32).