

# **Course: Advanced**

## **Level 3**

Day №19

**At what age should people do the following things?  
Give reasons.**



☐ **Move out of their parents' house**



☐ **Get married**



☐ **Start working**



☐ **Have children**



# Talk Show

*Youth Move* is an international talk show about cultural trends. Today's topic is adult children who live with their parents. What do you think about this trend? Listen to the conversation.

**Philo:** Hello, this is Philo Samra, your host of *Youth Move*. Today's topic is adult children who keep living with their parents. Is this a global phenomenon? Is it a good thing? Today we're talking to Rie Hoshino, a journalist from Tokyo, and Billie Fox, from *Voice* magazine in London. Rie, what's happening in Asia?

**Rie:** In Japan it's a huge trend. We call adult children living at home "parasite singles."

**Philo:** Sounds creepy. How about in the UK, Billie?

**Billie:** Well, something similar is going on here. We call young people who have left home and then return home "boomerang children."

**Philo:** So are these young people taking advantage of their parents?

**Rie:** I think they've been spoiled by their parents, so they don't want to grow up. They expect Mommy to cook and clean for them.

**Philo:** But there must be practical reasons also.

**Rie:** Of course. Living by yourself costs a lot. Also, families are much smaller than in the past so parents can afford to support their children.

**Philo:** But that creates problems...

**Rie:** Well, they get married later, so they don't buy houses, cars, and so on. That's contributing to the bad economy.

**Billie:** Well, in the UK people see a positive side to all of this.

**Philo:** For example?

**Billie:** Well, living at home gives young people a chance to think about their future. They are often quite hard-working. They may be saving to buy their first home.

**Philo:** But in the past, young people wanted to leave home to be free. What has changed?

**Rie:** These days society is more materialistic. If they leave home, they will be poorer than now. They want to stay home and keep the high standard of living.

**Billie:** We shouldn't forget that some parents enjoy having their children at home. Parents and their adult children become more like friends.

**Philo:** What do our listeners have to say? What are the trends where you live? Our first caller is from New Delhi in India...

## Check your understanding

Answer the questions. Circle a, b, or c.

1. According to Rie, in Japan, adult children living at home is:  
a.) not so common   b.) getting more common   c.) less common than before
2. In the UK, young people who come back to live with their parents are called  
a.) parasite single   b.) huge trend.   c.) boomerang children
3. The criticism of adult children living at home is:  
a.) they don't have jobs   b.) they spend too much money.   c.) they are selfish
4. A good thing about adult children living with their parents is:  
a.) they have time to think about their future.   b.) they give their parents money
5. One reason why adult children live with their parents is:  
a.) the high cost of living.   b.) they can't find work.   c.) they don't think about their future

***Talk about your own experience in this area. How old were you when you moved out of your parents' house? What is different or the same in your culture about this issue?***





# Vocabulary Check

Trend

Creepy

Spoiled

Materialistic

- Disturbing
- Interested in owning things and having money
- a general direction in which things are moving
- selfish because you always get what you want



Listen carefully to the opinions of these four people. Who do you agree with the most? Rank the opinions from 1 to 4 (1=strongly agree, 4=strongly disagree)



☐ **Anna:** If adult children keep staying at home, they will never grow up.



☐ **Shingo:** It's important for young people to become independent.



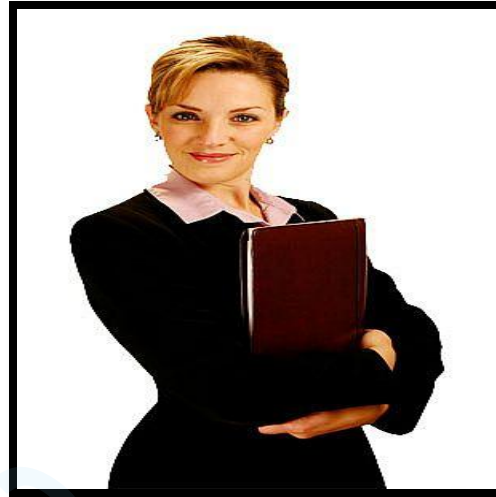
☐ **Mark:** I think it's good for children to stay at home and be close to their parents.



☐ **Iris:** It's really convenient to live at home. I don't blame children for staying.

## *Role play:*

*Pretend that you are an interviewer who will interview a 33-year old son or daughter who does not want to move out of his/her parents' house.*





## ***Read the problem that Frances has with her son.***

My son is 33 years old and not married. He lives with us and doesn't want to live by himself. He has a job, but spends all his money on his hobbies. I cook for him, clean his room, and wash his clothes. I tell him to seriously think about starting his own family, but he says he is just as happy like this and wouldn't change his lifestyle. I'm afraid he will never get married. What should I do?



## Choose your advice.

What advice would you give to Frances?	Check the advice you agree with.	What advice would you give to Frances?	Check y the advice you agree with
Try talking to her son gently.		Stop cleaning his room.	
Make a list of rules.		Stop cooking for him.	
Tell him he must save his money and move out.		Lock the door if he comes home too late.	
My idea:		My idea:	

***Thank you for  
today!***

***I'm looking forward to  
seeing you again!***