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Level 2

Older mothers may raise happier children

31st March, 2017

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1703/170331-older-mothers-2.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1703/170331-older-mothers-2.html>

New research says that children of older mothers grow up to be happier. It also says children will have fewer behavioural, social and emotional problems. Researchers from a university in Denmark looked at data from 4,741 mothers. The lead researcher said we are, "more mentally flexible" and more tolerant of others as we get older. He said this could be why older mothers do not scold and hit their children as much as younger mothers. He added that, "this style of parenting can [lead] to a positive psycho-social environment" as the child grows up.

The research said the average age of the mothers when pregnant was 31. Older mothers worry less during pregnancy. They are usually happier and more positive about becoming parents and about children. This may mean they are more caring. Older mothers also have more stable relationships; they have more money; and they have a better education. Researchers also found that children with older mothers have better language skills than those with younger mothers. This may be because older mothers spend more time with their children and talk to them more.

Sources: <http://www.webmd.com/parenting/news/20170323/older-mothers-may-raise-better-behaved-kids-study-suggests>
<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/17405629.2016.1266248?journalCode=pedp20>
<http://www.news-medical.net/news/20170323/Children-born-to-older-mothers-are-at-an-advantage-report-researchers.aspx>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1703/170331-older-mothers-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. children of older mothers | a. why |
| 2. emotional | b. environment |
| 3. looked at data | c. problems |
| 4. more tolerant | d. up |
| 5. He said this could be | e. of others |
| 6. scold and | f. grow up to be happier |
| 7. a positive psycho-social | g. hit their children |
| 8. as the child grows | h. from 4,741 mothers |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--|------------------------|
| 1. the average age of the mothers when | a. education |
| 2. Older mothers worry less during | b. parents |
| 3. more positive about becoming | c. skills |
| 4. This may mean they are more | d. relationships |
| 5. stable | e. pregnancy |
| 6. they have a better | f. pregnant was 31 |
| 7. have better language | g. with their children |
| 8. older mothers spend more time | h. caring |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1703/170331-older-mothers-2.html>

New research says that (1) _____ mothers grow up to be happier. It also says children (2) _____ behavioural, social and emotional problems. Researchers from a university in Denmark (3) _____ from 4,741 mothers. The lead researcher said we are, "more mentally flexible" and more (4) _____ as we get older. He said this could be why older mothers do not (5) _____ their children as much as younger mothers. He added that, "(6) _____ parenting can [lead] to a positive psycho-social environment" as the child grows up.

The research said (7) _____ of the mothers when pregnant was 31. Older mothers worry (8) _____ pregnancy. (9) _____ happier and more positive about becoming parents and about children. This may mean they are more caring. Older mothers also have more stable relationships; they have more money; and they (10) _____ education. Researchers also found that children with older mothers have better (11) _____ than those with younger mothers. This may be because older mothers spend more time with their children (12) _____ more.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1703/170331-older-mothers-2.html>

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OLDER MOTHERS SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1703/170331-older-mothers-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about older mothers in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

WRITING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1703/170331-older-mothers-2.html>

Write about **older mothers** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.
