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Level 3

Older mothers may raise happier children 31st March, 2017

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

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170331-older-mothers.html

New research suggests that the children of older mothers grow up to be happier. The study says children will also experience fewer behavioural problems and have fewer social and emotional difficulties. Researchers from Aarhus University in Denmark looked at data from a random sample of 4,741 mothers. Lead researcher Professor Dion Sommer said we become, "more mentally flexible with age, more tolerant of other people". He said this could be the reason why older mothers do not scold and physically discipline their children as much as younger mothers. He added that, "this style of parenting can contribute to a positive psychosocial environment" as the child grows up.

The findings of the research showed that the average age of the women while pregnant was about 31. Studies show that older mothers worry less during pregnancy and are happier and more positive about becoming parents and towards their children in general. This may mean they are more caring and supportive of their children. Older mothers also tend to be in more stable relationships, they are better off financially and they have had a better education. Researchers also found that children born to older mothers have a better language ability than those born to younger mothers. This may be because older mothers spend more time with their children and talk to them more often.

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

WARM-UPS

- **1. OLDER MOTHERS:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about older mothers. Change partners often and share your findings.
- **2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

research / happier / experience / emotional / difficulties / flexible / discipline / positive average / pregnant / in general / supportive / relationships / financially / language

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

- **3. YOUNGER MOTHERS:** Students A **strongly** believe mothers are better than older mothers; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite is true. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.
- **4. PARENTING:** What are the pros and cons of parenting? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Pros	Cons
Money		
Sleep		
Holidays		
Happiness		
Future		
Mental health		

- **5. PREGNANT:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "pregnant". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.
- **6. HAPPY:** Rank these with your partner. Put the things that make parents happiest at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.
 - a child's birth
 - children at play
 - child graduates university
 - child gets married

- a child's first "I love you"
- big hugs
- bath time
- reading together

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170331-older-mothers.html

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. A study says children of older mothers have fewer behavioral problems. T / F
- b. The study is from a university in Denmark. **T/F**
- c. Researchers looked at data from 4,741 mothers. T / F
- d. The study said older mums scold children more than younger mums. T / F
- e. The average age of the mothers in the study was 41. **T/F**
- f. The study found that older mothers worried more about their pregnancy. T / F
- g. Older mothers are usually in more stable relationships. **T/F**
- h. Younger mothers were found to talk to their children more. T / F

2. SYNONYM MATCH:

Match the following synonyms. The words in **bold** are from the news article.

- 1. experience
- 2. data
- 3. tolerant
- 4. discipline
- 5. environment
- 6. show
- 7. in general
- 8. stable
- 9. ability
- 10. talk

- a. control
- b. demonstrate
- c. secure
- d. surroundings
- e. speak
- f. open-minded
- g. talent
- h. come across
- i. usually
- i. information

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- 1. the children of older mothers
- 2. fewer social and
- 3. looked at data from a
- 4. more tolerant
- 5. older mothers do not scold and physically
- 6. the average age of the women
- 7. mothers worry less during
- 8. children in
- 9. Older mothers also tend to be in
- 10. a better language

- a. random sample
- b. more stable relationships
- c. discipline their children
- d. emotional difficulties
- e. pregnancy
- f. general
- g. grow up to be happier
- h. ability
- i. of other people
- j. while pregnant

GAP FILL

New research (1)	that the children of	older <i>fe</i>	ewer
mothers grow up to be happier.	The study says children wil	l also d	liscipline
experience (2) b	pehavioural problems and	have re	eason
fewer social and emotional (3) $_$	Researchers		lata
Aarhus University in Denmark lool	ked at (4) fi	rom a	lata
random sample of 4,741 mothers	. Lead researcher Professor	Dion s	uggests
Sommer said we become, '	"more mentally flexible	with s	tyle
(5), more toleran	it of other people". He said	d this d	lifficulties
could be the (6)	why older mothers do not	scold	
and physically (7)	their children as muc	ch as	ge
younger mothers. He added that	at, "this (8)	of	
parenting can contribute to a pos	sitive psycho-social environi	ment"	
as the child grows up.			
The findings of the research show	wed that the (9)		off
The findings of the research show age of the women while pregnant		u that	
_	was about 31. Studies show	v that $_{\it S}$	upportive
age of the women while pregnant	was about 31. Studies show	v that s	
age of the women while pregnant older mothers worry less during	was about 31. Studies show g (10) and too	v that s d are s wards	upportive
age of the women while pregnant older mothers worry less during happier and more positive about	was about 31. Studies show g (10) and becoming parents and too This may mean the	v that s d are s wards y are	upportive pend
age of the women while pregnant older mothers worry less during happier and more positive about their children in (11)	was about 31. Studies show g (10) and becoming parents and to This may mean the of their children.	v that s d are s wards y are Older	upportive pend pregnancy
age of the women while pregnant older mothers worry less during happier and more positive about their children in (11) more caring and (12)	was about 31. Studies show g (10) and becoming parents and to This may mean the of their children to be in more s	v that side are side are side are stable are side are side are are stable are	upportive pend pregnancy verage
age of the women while pregnant older mothers worry less during happier and more positive about their children in (11) more caring and (12) mothers also (13)	was about 31. Studies show g (10) and becoming parents and to g	v that side are side are side are stable are stable to that	upportive pend pregnancy everage bility end
age of the women while pregnant older mothers worry less during happier and more positive about their children in (11) more caring and (12) mothers also (13) relationships, they are better (14)	was about 31. Studies show g (10) and becoming parents and to g	v that side are side are side are stable are	upportive pend pregnancy everage bility
age of the women while pregnant older mothers worry less during happier and more positive about their children in (11) more caring and (12) mothers also (13) relationships, they are better (14 they have had a better education	was about 31. Studies show g (10) and becoming parents and too This may mean the of their children to be in more so h) financially on. Researchers also found ers have a better langer	v that side are side are side are stable are	upportive pend pregnancy everage bility end
age of the women while pregnant older mothers worry less during happier and more positive about their children in (11) more caring and (12) mothers also (13) relationships, they are better (14 they have had a better education children born to older mothers	was about 31. Studies show g (10) and becoming parents and to g becoming parents g becoming paren	v that side are side are side are stable are	upportive pend pregnancy everage bility end

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170331-older-mothers.html

1)	New research suggests that the children of older mothers grow a. up to be happy a b. up to been happier c. up too be happier d. up to be happier
2)	fewer behavioural problems and have fewer social and a. emotionally difficulty b. emotionally difficult ties c. emotional difficulties d. emotionally difficulties
3)	Researchers from Aarhus University in Denmark looked at data froma. a random simple b. a random sample c. a random sump all d. a random stamp all
4)	we become, "more mentally flexible with age," a. more tolerant b. more tolerance c. more toll errant d. more taller ant
5)	the reason why older mothers do not scold and physically children a. discipline them b. discipline there c. discipline they're d. discipline their
6)	Studies show that older mothers worry less a. during pregnant see b. jury pregnancy c. jawing pregnancies d. during pregnancy
7)	This may mean they are more caring and children a. support if of their b. supportive off their c. supportive of their d. support I've of there
8)	Older mothers also tend to be in more a. stay bull relationships b. stable relationships c. stay ball relationships d. stable relationship
9)	Researchers also found that children born to older mothers have a better a. language abilities b. languages ability c. languages abilities d. language ability
10)) older mothers spend more time with their children and talk to a. them more off ten b. them more oft than c. them more often than

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d. them more often

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

New research suggests that the (1)	mothers grow
up to be happier. The study says children will also e	experience fewer
behavioural problems and have fewer (2)	
difficulties. Researchers from Aarhus University	in Denmark
(3) from a random sample of 4,74	1 mothers. Lead
researcher Professor Dion Sommer said we become,	"more mentally
(4), more tolerant of other people	le". He said this
could be the reason why older mothers do not (5)	
discipline their children as much as younger mothers. He	added that, "this
style of parenting can contribute to a positive psycho-social	environment" as
(6)	
The findings of the research showed that (7)	the
The findings of the research showed that (7)women while pregnant was about 31. Studies show that older	
	er mothers worry
women while pregnant was about 31. Studies show that olde	er mothers worry e positive about
women while pregnant was about 31. Studies show that older	er mothers worry re positive about This may
women while pregnant was about 31. Studies show that older less (8) and are happier and more becoming parents and towards their (9)	er mothers worry re positive about
women while pregnant was about 31. Studies show that older less (8) and are happier and more becoming parents and towards their (9) mean they are more caring and supportive of their children	er mothers worry re positive about This may n. Older mothers , they are better
women while pregnant was about 31. Studies show that older less (8) and are happier and more becoming parents and towards their (9) mean they are more caring and supportive of their children also tend (10) stable relationships	er mothers worry re positive about This may n. Older mothers , they are better rchers also found
women while pregnant was about 31. Studies show that older less (8) and are happier and more becoming parents and towards their (9) mean they are more caring and supportive of their children also tend (10) stable relationships off financially and they have had a better education. Research	er mothers worry re positive about This may n. Older mothers , they are better rchers also found re a better
women while pregnant was about 31. Studies show that older less (8) and are happier and more becoming parents and towards their (9) mean they are more caring and supportive of their children also tend (10) stable relationships off financially and they have had a better education. Research that children born to older mothers have	er mothers worry re positive about This may n. Older mothers , they are better rchers also found re a better others. This may

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1.	What kind of problems will children of older mothers have fewer of?
2.	What country is this research from?
3.	How many mothers' data did researchers look at?
4.	What do older mothers become with other people?
5.	What do older mothers do less of physically to their children?
6.	What was the average age of pregnant mothers in the sample?
7.	What tends to be more stable with older mothers?
8.	In what way did the article say older mothers are better off?
9.	What ability is better in children of older mothers?
10.	Who do older mothers spend more time with?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170331-older-mothers.html

- 1) What kind of problems will children of older mothers have fewer of?
- a) behavioural problems
- b) bullying
- c) money problems
- d) difficulty problems
- 2) What country is this research from?
- a) Sweden
- b) Norway
- c) Denmark
- d) Finland
- 3) How many mothers' data did researchers look at?
- a) 4,417
- b) 1,471
- c) 7.417
- d) 4,741
- 4) What do older mothers become with other people?
- a) strangers
- b) more tolerant
- c) monsters
- d) friends
- 5) What do older mothers do less of physically to their children?
- a) discipline them
- b) hug them
- c) shout at them
- d) use their real name

- 6) What was the average age of pregnant mothers in the sample?
- a) 51
- b) 41
- c) 21
- d) 31
- 7) What tends to be more stable with older mothers?
- a) their mind
- b) their balance
- c) relationships
- d) the weather
- 8) In what way did the article say older mothers are better off?
- a) emotionally
- b) financially
- c) health-wise
- d) alone
- 9) What ability is better in children of older mothers?
- a) cooking
- b) sciences
- c) language
- d) maths
- 10) Who do older mothers spend more time with?
- a) their husband
- b) their children
- c) their neighbours
- d) their doctor

ROLE PLAY

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170331-older-mothers.html

Role A - 18

You think 18 is the best age to become a first-time parent. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their ages. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): 25, 32 or 40.

Role B - 25

You think 25 is the best age to become a first-time parent. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their ages. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): 18, 32 or 40.

Role C - 32

You think 32 is the best age to become a first-time parent. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their ages. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): 25, 18 or 40.

Role D - 40

You think 40 is the best age to become a first-time parent. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their ages. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): 25, 32 or 18.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170331-older-mothers.html

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'older' and 'mother'.

older	mother

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.
- **2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS:** Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.
 - Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
 - Ask your partner / group your questions.
- **3. GAP FILL:** In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?
- **4. VOCABULARY:** Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.
- **5. TEST EACH OTHER:** Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

newdifficulties	ageless
• data	• general
other	• tend
• much	• ability
• positive	• talk

OLDER MOTHERS SURVEY

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170331-older-mothers.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.

OLDER MOTHERS DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- 1. What did you think when you read the headline?
- 2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'older'?
- 3. How much do you agree with what you read?
- 4. Why might younger women be better mothers?
- 5. What is a good mother?
- 6. Have you become a more tolerant person?
- 7. How should parents discipline their children?
- 8. How useful is scolding young children?
- 9. What are the best three adjectives to describe a mother?
- 10. Should high schools give weekly parenting classes to children

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OLDER MOTHERS DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- 11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- 12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'mother'?
- 13. What do you think about what you read?
- 14. Why might older women be better mothers?
- 15. What is the best age for someone to become a parent?
- 16. Is there a time when someone becomes too old to become a parent?
- 17. How can society give more help to mothers (and fathers)?
- 18. How difficult is the job of being a mother?
- 19. Should mothers get paid for being a mother?
- 20. What questions would you like to ask the researchers?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

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CU	w.BreakingNewsEnglish.com	ite your	own qu	estions)
SCU		ite your	own qu	estions)
CU	SSION (Wri	ite your	own qu	estions)
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CU	SSION (Wri	ite your	own qu	estions)
CU	SSION (Wri	ite your	own qu	estions)

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

New	resea	arch (1) t	that th	ne children d	of older	mothers gro	w up t	to be happier.
		says children				_	-	
	-	er social and en		•				•
		looked at da						
		r Professor Dio						
		tolerant of oth				_	-	
_		lo not scold ar	-	-				
		He added that,		,				, ,
		ironment" as th					-	
The	findin	gs of the rese	arch	showed that	the av	rerage age (7	7)	_ the womer
while	e preg	ınant was abou	t 31. S	Studies shov	v that o	lder mothers	worry	less (8)
preg	nancy	and are happi	er and	d more posit	ive abo	ut becoming	parent	s and towards
their	child	dren (9)	gene	eral. This n	nay me	ean they are	e mor	e caring and
		e (10) the						
		ips, they are b						
		Researchers a						
_	_	ability than (1	-		_			
oluei	mou	ners spend mor	e time	e with their t	illiaren	מווע נמוג נט נו	ieiii iii	ore orten.
Put	the c	orrect words	from	the table be	elow in	the above a	rticle	
1.	(a)	suggest	(b)	suggests	(c)	suggestive	(d)	suggesting
2.	(a)	less	(b)	fewer	(c)	lessen	(d)	lessens
3.	(a)	sump	(b)	stamp	(c)	simple	(d)	sample
4.	(a)	mentality	(b)	mentally	(c)	mental	(d)	menthol
5.	(a)	how	(b)	why	(c)	why	(d)	what
6.	(a)	parental	(b)	patented	(c)	parenting	(d)	patent
7.	(a)	by	(b)	on	(c)	of	(d)	as
8.	(a)	while	(b)	between	(c)	during	(d)	among
9.	(a)	by	(b)	on	(c)	at	(d)	in
10.	(a)	of	(b)	off	(c)	at	(d)	as
11.	(a)	off	(b)	at	(c)	on	(d)	up
12.	(a)	these	(b)	that	(c)	those	(d)	them

SPELLING

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170331-older-mothers.html

Paragraph 1

- 1. fewer social and emotional ieftfdlisuci
- 2. a random psmlea of 4,741 mothers
- 3. more <u>nlarotte</u> of other people
- 4. this could be the rasneo why
- 5. <u>yclasyplih</u> discipline their children
- 6. a <u>esvotiip</u> psycho-social environment

Paragraph 2

- 7. the <u>varegea</u> age of the women
- 8. older mothers worry less <u>udrgni</u> pregnancy
- 9. more caring and <u>rieupvspto</u>
- 10. they are better off iniclalfyna
- 11. a better inctuoade
- 12. a better language tibaiyl

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170331-older-mothers.html

Number these lines in the correct order.

()	people". He said this could be the reason why older mothers do not scold and physically discipline their children as
()	because older mothers spend more time with their children and talk to them more often.
()	that older mothers worry less during pregnancy and are happier and more positive about becoming parents and towards
()	experience fewer behavioural problems and have fewer social and emotional difficulties. Researchers from Aarhus University
()	much as younger mothers. He added that, "this style of parenting can contribute
(1)	New research suggests that the children of older mothers grow up to be happier. The study says children will also
()	to a positive psycho-social environment" as the child grows up.
()	The findings of the research showed that the average age of the women while pregnant was about 31. Studies show
()	of their children. Older mothers also tend to be in more stable relationships, they are better off
()	their children in general. This may mean they are more caring and supportive
()	to older mothers have a better language ability than those born to younger mothers. This may be
()	in Denmark looked at data from a random sample of 4,741 mothers. Lead
()	financially and they have had a better education. Researchers also found that children born
()	researcher Professor Dion Sommer said we become, "more mentally flexible with age, more tolerant of other

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170331-older-mothers.html

- 1. be mothers happier grow Children up of to older . 2. experience behavioural Children also fewer problems will . 3. data at Looked mothers 4,741 of sample random a from . mentally with We more flexible age become . 4. 5. younger children mothers as Physically much discipline as their . pregnant while women the of age average The . 6. 7. mothers Older pregnancy during less worry . 8. and positive becoming Happier more about parents .
- 10. mothers Older children their with time more spend .

relationships also be stable mothers to more Older tend in .

9.

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170331-older-mothers.html

New research *suggests* / *suggestive* that the children of older mothers *growing* / *grow* up to be happier. The study says children will also experience *less* / *fewer* behavioural problems and have fewer social and emotional *difficult* / *difficulties*. Researchers from Aarhus University in Denmark looked *at* / *in* data from a random *simple* / *sample* of 4,741 mothers. Lead researcher Professor Dion Sommer said we become, "more mentally flexible with *old* / *age*, are more *tolerant* / *tolerance* of other people". He said this could be the reason why older mothers do not scold and *physical* / *physically* discipline their children as much as younger mothers. He added that, "this *stylish* / *style* of parenting can contribute to a positive psycho-social environment" as the child grows up.

The findings / funding of the research showed that the average age / old of the women while pregnant / pregnancy was about 31. Studies show that older mothers worry fewer / less during pregnancy and are happier and more positive about becoming / become parents and towards their children in generally / general. This may mean they are more caring and supportive of their children. Older mothers also tend to be in more stable / barn relationships, they are better on / off financially and they have had a better education. Researchers also found that children born to older mothers have a better language ability / able than those born to younger mothers. This may be because older mothers spend more time with their children and talk to / at them more often.

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170331-older-mothers.html

N_w r_s__rch s_gg_sts th_t th_ ch_ldr_n _f _ld_r m_th_rs gr_w _p t_ b_ h_pp__r. Th_ st_dy s_ys ch ldr n w_ll _ls_ _xp_r__nc_ f_w_r b_h_v___r_l pr_bl_ms _nd h_v_ f_w_r s_c__l _nd _m_t__n_l d_ff_c_lt__s. R_s__rch_rs fr_m __rh_s _n_v_rs_ty _n D_nm_rk l__k_d _t d_t_ fr_m _ r_nd_m s_mpl_ _f 4,741 m_th_rs. L__d r_s__rch_r Pr_f_ss_r D__n S_mm_r s__d w_ b_c_m_, "m_r_ m_nt_lly fl_x_bl_ w_th _g_, _r_ m_r_ t_l_r_nt _f _th_r p__pl_". H_ s__d th_s c__ld b_ th r s n why ld r m th rs d n t sc ld nd phys_c_lly d_sc_pl_n_ th__r ch_ldr_n _s m_ch _s y__ng_r m_th_rs. H_ _dd_d th_t, "th_s styl_ _f p_r_nt_ng c_n c_ntr_b_t_ t_ _ p_s_t_v_ psych_-s_c__l _nv_r_nm_nt" _s th_ ch_ld gr_ws _p. Th f nd ngs f th r s r ch sh w d th t th v r g _g_ _f th_ w_m_n wh_l_ pr_gn_nt w_s _b__t 31. St_d_s sh_w th_t _ld_r m_th_rs w_rry I ss d r ng pr_gn_ncy _nd _r_ h_pp__r _nd m_r_ p_s_t_v_ _b__t bcm ng pr nts nd tw rds th r ch ldr n n g_n_r_l. Th_s m_y m__n th_y _r_ m_r_ c_r_ng _nd s_pp_rt_v_ f th__r ch_ldr_n. _ld_r m_th_rs _ls_ t_nd $t_b - n - m_r - st_bl_r - l_t_n sh_p s$, $th_y - r_b - t_r$ _ff f_n_nc__lly _nd th_y h_v_ h_d _ b_tt_r _d_c_t__n. R_s_rch_rs _ls_ f__nd th_t ch_ldr_n b_rn t_ _ld_r m_th_rs h_v_ _ b_tt_r l_ng__g_ _b_l_ty th_n th_s_ b_rn t_ y__ng_r m_th_rs. Th_s m_y b_ b_c__s_ _ld_r m th rs sp nd m r t m w th th r ch ldr n nd t lk t th m m r ft n.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170331-older-mothers.html

new research suggests that the children of older mothers grow up to be happier the study says children will also experience fewer behavioural problems and have fewer social and emotional difficulties researchers from aarhus university in denmark looked at data from a random sample of 4741 mothers lead researcher professor dion sommer said we become "more mentally flexible with age are more tolerant of other people" he said this could be the reason why older mothers do not scold and physically discipline their children as much as younger mothers he added that "this style of parenting can contribute to a positive psycho-social environment" as the child grows up

the findings of the research showed that the average age of the women while pregnant was about 31 studies show that older mothers worry less during pregnancy and are happier and more positive about becoming parents and towards their children in general this may mean they are more caring and supportive of their children older mothers also tend to be in more stable relationships they are better off financially and they have had a better education researchers also found that children born to older mothers have a better language ability than those born to younger mothers this may be because older mothers spend more time with their children and talk to them more often

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170331-older-mothers.html

Newresearchsuggeststhatthechildrenofoldermothersgrowuptobeha ppier. The study sayschildren will also experience fewer behaviour alpro blemsandhavefewersocialandemotionaldifficulties.Researchersfro mAarhusUniversityinDenmarklookedatdatafromarandomsampleof 4,741mothers.LeadresearcherProfessorDionSommersaidwebecom e,"morementallyflexiblewithage,moretolerantofotherpeople".H esaidthiscouldbethereasonwhyoldermothersdonotscoldandphysical lydisciplinetheirchildrenasmuchasyoungermothers. Headdedthat, "t hisstyleofparentingcancontributetoapositivepsycho-socialenviro nment"asthechildgrowsup. The findingsoftheresearch showed that the eaverageageofthewomenwhilepregnantwasabout31.Studiesshowt hatoldermothersworrylessduringpregnancyandarehappierandmore positive about be coming parents and towards their childrening eneral. T hismaymeantheyaremorecaringandsupportiveoftheirchildren.Older mothersalsotendtobeinmorestablerelationships, they are better offfin ancially and they have had a bettereducation. Researchers also found th atchildrenborntooldermothershaveabetterlanguageabilitythanthos eborntoyoungermothers. This may be be cause older mothers spend mo retimewiththeirchildrenandtalktothemmoreoften.

FREE WRITING

Write about older mothers for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner's paper.		

ACADEMIC WRITING

Older mothers are better mothers. Discuss.		

HOMEWORK

- **1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.
- **2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find out more about this news. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.
- **3. OLDER MOTHERS:** Make a poster about older mothers. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?
- **4. PARENTING:** Write a magazine article about having weekly parenting lessons for all children at high school. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against it.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

- **5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?** Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.
- **6. LETTER:** Write a letter to an expert on older mothers. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three pieces of advice for older mothers. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a T b T c T d F e F f F g T h F

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- 1. experience
- 2. data
- 3. tolerant
- 4. discipline
- 5. environment
- 6. show
- 7. in general
- 8. stable
- 9. ability
- 10. talk

- a. come across
- b. information
- c. open-minded
- d. control
- e. surroundings
- f. demonstrate
- g. usually
- h. secure
- i. talent
- j. speak

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

- 1. Behavioural problems
- 2. Denmark
- 3. 4,741
- 4. More tolerant
- 5. Discipline them
- 6. 31
- 7. Relationships
- 8. Financially
- 9. Language ability
- 10. Their children

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. a 2. c 3. d 4. b 5. a 6. d 7. c 8. b 9. c 10. b

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2. (It's good for your English ;-)