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Level 6 – 31st May, 2019

Anger at TV show with big age difference couples

FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190531-age-differences.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190531-age-differences.html>

A TV channel in the UK is under fire from members of the public for one of its programmes that follows the lives of couples with a big age difference. Viewers have accused the Channel 5 series Age Gap Love of "normalising grooming". The complaints came after a show that documented the relationship of a couple who got together when the man was 44 and his partner was 16. The man was originally a friend of the 16-year-old's mother. He became friendly with the daughter when she was a child and started dating her when she turned 16. After this episode was aired, the channel received a flood of complaints from viewers who slammed the show for "making this concept seem normal".

The couple in the show are married and have two children. He is now 47 and she is 19. The man said: "I was concerned what people would think. It's a big gap. It's a generation gap. So it's like, what are people going to think?" His wife also spoke about the relationship. She said: "The age doesn't really bother me. It never has done. I don't see him as an old man, or my dad, or anything like that. He's just sensitive - like a big teddy bear." She added: "I've always wanted to have a family, so I just thought he would be the perfect man." Life has not been easy for the couple. When they first started dating, they received a lot of abuse from neighbours and the local community and had to move to another city.

Sources: <https://www.mirror.co.uk/tv/tv-news/age-gap-love-accused-normalising-16213965>
<https://www.thesun.co.uk/fabulous/9166705/viewers-blast-channel-5-normalising-grooming-age-gap-love/>
<https://www.liverpoolecho.co.uk/news/tv/viewers-criticise-channel-5s-age-16341922>

WARM-UPS

1. AGE DIFFERENCES: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about age differences. 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?

TV channel / under fire / couples / complaint / relationship / dating / concept / normal married / generation gap / age / sensitive / teddy bear / family / perfect / neighbours

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

3. AGE LIMIT: Students A **strongly** believe there should be a limit on the maximum age difference between couples; Students B **strongly** believe otherwise. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. DIFFERENCES: Do differences in these things matter? What problems might they have? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Do The Differences Matter?	What Problems Might They Have?
Age		
Income		
Religion		
Nationality		
Education		
Race		

5. COUPLE: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "couple". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. RELATIONSHIP: Rank these with your partner. Put the most important things for a relationship at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- similar age
- same hobbies
- same education
- shared housework
- same dreams
- similar personality
- same religion
- same nationality

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 1. under fire | a. Severely criticized. |
| 2. viewer | b. Said that someone has done something wrong. |
| 3. accused | c. A statement that a situation is unsatisfactory or unacceptable. |
| 4. grooming | d. Being criticized a lot. |
| 5. complaint | e. Passed the age or time of. |
| 6. turned | f. A person who watches television or a movie. |
| 7. slammed | g. Preparing a child for a meeting, especially via an Internet chat room, with the intention of committing a sexual offense. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 8. generation | h. Insulting and offensive language. |
| 9. bother | i. Worry, disturb, or upset. |
| 10. sensitive | j. A group of people living in the same place or having a particular characteristic in common. |
| 11. abuse | k. A great difference in age between people. |
| 12. local | l. Belonging or relating to a particular area. |
| 13. neighbour | m. Having or displaying a quick and delicate appreciation of others' feelings. |
| 14. community | n. A person living near or next door to the speaker or person referred to. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190531-age-differences.html>

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

- a. There was a fire at a TV channel in the UK. **T / F**
- b. A TV show followed the lives of a couple with a 44-year age difference. **T / F**
- c. The man in the show was the friend of a girl's mother. **T / F**
- d. The couple started dating when the girl turned 18. **T / F**
- e. The couple are now married and have two children. **T / F**
- f. The man said his wife loves teddy bears. **T / F**
- g. The couple said life hasn't been easy for them. **T / F**
- h. Neighbours of the couple were unhappy with their relationship. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH:

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

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------|
| 1. channel | a. trouble |
| 2. difference | b. initially |
| 3. accused | c. ideal |
| 4. originally | d. worried |
| 5. aired | e. gap |
| 6. concerned | f. thoughtful |
| 7. bother | g. broadcast |
| 8. sensitive | h. station |
| 9. perfect | i. relocate |
| 10. move | j. blamed |

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

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. A TV channel in the UK is under | a. relationship of a couple |
| 2. members of the | b. from viewers |
| 3. a show that documented the | c. like a big teddy bear |
| 4. After this episode was | d. public |
| 5. received a flood of complaints | e. the perfect man |
| 6. It's a generation | f. fire |
| 7. The age doesn't | g. from neighbours |
| 8. He's just sensitive - | h. gap |
| 9. just thought he would be | i. aired |
| 10. they received a lot of abuse | j. really bother me |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190531-age-differences.html>

A TV channel in the UK is under (1) _____ from members of the public for one of its programmes that follows the lives of (2) _____ with a big age difference. Viewers have (3) _____ the Channel 5 series Age Gap Love of "normalising grooming". The complaints came after a show that documented the (4) _____ of a couple who got together when the man was 44 and his partner was 16. The man was (5) _____ a friend of the 16-year-old's mother. He became friendly with the daughter when she was a child and started dating her when she (6) _____ 16. After this episode was aired, the channel received a (7) _____ of complaints from viewers who slammed the show for "making this (8) _____ seem normal".

relationship

couples

flood

originally

concept

fire

accused

turned

The (9) _____ in the show are married and have two children. He is now 47 and she is 19. The man said: "I was (10) _____ what people would think. It's a big gap. It's a (11) _____ gap. So it's like, what are people going to think?" His wife also spoke about the relationship. She said: "The age doesn't really (12) _____ me. It never has done. I don't see him as an old man, or my dad, or anything like that. He's just (13) _____ - like a big teddy bear." She added: "I've always wanted to have a family, so I just thought he would be the (14) _____ man." Life has not been easy for the couple. When they first started (15) _____, they received a lot of (16) _____ from neighbours and the local community and had to move to another city.

abuse

sensitive

concerned

dating

generation

couple

perfect

bother

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190531-age-differences.html>

- 1) A TV channel in the UK is under fire from members _____
 - a. of the publicity
 - b. of the publicly
 - c. of the public
 - d. of the publican
- 2) accused the Channel 5 series Age Gap Love of _____
 - a. normalising groom in
 - b. normalising gloomy
 - c. normalising gloom in
 - d. normalising grooming
- 3) friendly with the daughter when she was a child and started dating her _____
 - a. when she turning 16
 - b. where she turned 16
 - c. when he turned 16
 - d. when she turned 16
- 4) After this episode was aired, the channel received a _____
 - a. floods of complaints
 - b. flood of complaints
 - c. flooding of complaints
 - d. flooded of complaints
- 5) viewers who slammed the show for making this _____
 - a. concept seem normal
 - b. concepts seem normal
 - c. concept seems normal
 - d. concept seem normality
- 6) I was concerned what people would think. It's a big gap. It's _____
 - a. a generation grasp
 - b. a generation gap
 - c. a generation clap
 - d. a generation gape
- 7) The age doesn't really bother me. It never has done. I don't see him _____
 - a. as an old man
 - b. was an old man
 - c. has an old man
 - d. is an old man
- 8) as an old man, or my dad, or anything like that. He's just sensitive - like a _____
 - a. big teddy bear
 - b. big teddy bare
 - c. big teddy boar
 - d. big teddy beer
- 9) I've always wanted to have a family, so I just thought he would be _____
 - a. the perfectly man
 - b. the perfective man
 - c. the perfect man
 - d. the perfective man
- 10) abuse from neighbours and the local community and had to _____ city
 - a. moved to another
 - b. moving to another
 - c. mover to another
 - d. move to another

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190531-age-differences.html>

A TV channel in the UK is (1) _____ members of the public for one of its programmes that follows the lives of couples with a big age difference. Viewers (2) _____ Channel 5 series Age Gap Love of "normalising grooming". The complaints came after a (3) _____ the relationship of a couple who got together when the man was 44 and his partner was 16. The man (4) _____ friend of the 16-year-old's mother. He became friendly with the daughter when she was a child and started dating her when she turned 16. After this (5) _____, the channel received a flood of complaints from viewers who slammed the show for "making this (6) _____".

The couple in the show are married and have two children. He is now 47 and she is 19. The man said: "I (7) _____ people would think. It's a big gap. It's (8) _____. So it's like, what are people going to think?" His wife also spoke about the relationship. She said: "The age doesn't (9) _____. It never has done. I don't see him as an old man, or my dad, or anything like that. (10) _____ - like a big teddy bear." She added: "I've always wanted to have a family, so I just thought he would be (11) _____." Life has not been easy for the couple. When they first started dating, they received a lot of abuse from neighbours and the (12) _____ had to move to another city.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190531-age-differences.html>

1. Who is a TV channel under fire from?
2. What is the name of the TV programme?
3. How old was the woman when she first started dating the man?
4. Who was the man a friend of?
5. What did the show receive a flood of?
6. How many children do the couple have?
7. What kind of gap did the man call the age difference?
8. What did the woman liken her husband to?
9. What did the woman think the man would be?
10. What did the couple get a lot of from their neighbours?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190531-age-differences.html>

- 1) Who is a TV channel under fire from?
 - a) regulators
 - b) fire fighters
 - c) members of the public
 - d) marriage guidance counsellors
- 2) What is the name of the TV programme?
 - a) Age Gap Love
 - b) What a Difference
 - c) A Huge Difference
 - d) Gap In Love
- 3) How old was the woman when she first started dating the man?
 - a) 16
 - b) 17
 - c) 18
 - d) 19
- 4) Who was the man a friend of?
 - a) the girl's best friend
 - b) the girl's mother
 - c) the girl's father
 - d) the girl's grandfather
- 5) What did the show receive a flood of?
 - a) e-mails
 - b) water
 - c) letters
 - d) complaints
- 6) How many children do the couple have?
 - a) 1
 - b) 2
 - c) 3
 - d) 4
- 7) What kind of gap did the man call the age difference?
 - a) a generation gap
 - b) a slight gap
 - c) an opinion gap
 - d) a huge gap
- 8) What did the woman liken her husband to?
 - a) a movie star
 - b) Rambo
 - c) a teddy bear
 - d) a best friend
- 9) What did the woman think the man would be?
 - a) full of aches and pains
 - b) old-fashioned
 - c) tired
 - d) the perfect man
- 10) What did the couple get a lot of from their neighbours?
 - a) abuse
 - b) good wishes
 - c) presents
 - d) hate mail

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190531-age-differences.html>

Role A – Similar Age

You think being the same age is the most important thing for a successful relationship. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): same hobbies, same dreams or same religion.

Role B – Same Hobbies

You think having the same hobbies is the most important thing for a successful relationship. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): same age, same dreams or same religion.

Role C – Same Dreams

You think having the same dreams is the most important thing for a successful relationship. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): same hobbies, same age or same religion.

Role D – Same Religion

You think having the same religion is the most important thing for a successful relationship. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): same hobbies, same dreams or same age.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190531-age-differences.html>

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

age	difference
------------	-------------------

- 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:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• public• big• documented• originally• turned• normal	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• two• concerned• generation• old• bear• city
--	--

AGE DIFFERENCES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190531-age-differences.html>

Write five GOOD questions about age differences 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.

AGE DIFFERENCES 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 'age'?
3. Is age just a number?
4. What do you think of the 28-year age difference?
5. What do you think of a 44-year-old man dating a 16-year-old?
6. What do you think of a 44-year-old woman dating a 16-year-old?
7. Would you ever complain to a TV show?
8. What do you know about grooming?
9. Do you think this show is 'normalising grooming'?
10. What advice do you have for the couple?

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AGE DIFFERENCES 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 'couple'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What would you say if you were the 16-year-old's parent?
15. Do you prefer older or younger partners?
16. What is the oldest person you would date?
17. Is a 28-year age gap OK if the people are over 40?
18. What famous people have much younger partners?
19. Should there be a law on the maximum age difference in couples?
20. What questions would you like to ask the couple?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

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

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

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

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190531-age-differences.html>

A TV channel in the UK is (1) _____ fire from members of the public for one of its programmes that follows the (2) _____ of couples with a big age difference. Viewers have accused the Channel 5 series Age Gap Love (3) _____ "normalising grooming". The complaints came after a show that (4) _____ the relationship of a couple who got together when the man was 44 and his partner was 16. The man was originally a friend of the 16-year-old's mother. He became friendly with the daughter when she was a child and started dating her when she (5) _____ 16. After this episode was aired, the channel received a flood of complaints from viewers who (6) _____ the show for "making this concept seem normal".

The couple in the show are married and have two children. He is now 47 and she is 19. The man said: "I was (7) _____ what people would think. It's a big gap. It's a generation gap. So it's like, what are people going to think?" His wife also spoke about the relationship. She said: "The age doesn't really (8) _____ me. It never has done. I don't see him as an old man, or my dad, or anything like that. He's just sensitive - like a big (9) _____ bear." She added: "I've always wanted to have a family, so I just thought he would be the (10) _____ man." Life has not been easy for the couple. When they first started (11) _____, they received a lot of (12) _____ from neighbours and the local community and had to move to another city.

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1. | (a) over | (b) beneath | (c) under | (d) above |
| 2. | (a) lives | (b) lively | (c) livelihood | (d) lifers |
| 3. | (a) of | (b) to | (c) at | (d) on |
| 4. | (a) documented | (b) documentary | (c) document | (d) documents |
| 5. | (a) revolved | (b) twisted | (c) span | (d) turned |
| 6. | (a) slimed | (b) slimmed | (c) slummed | (d) slammed |
| 7. | (a) concerned | (b) cornered | (c) conned | (d) coerced |
| 8. | (a) rather | (b) mother | (c) wither | (d) bother |
| 9. | (a) teddy | (b) grin and | (c) cannot | (d) tiny |
| 10. | (a) perfectly | (b) perfect | (c) perfected | (d) perfective |
| 11. | (a) doting | (b) dating | (c) dittoing | (d) doubting |
| 12. | (a) abuse | (b) abusive | (c) abused | (d) abused |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190531-age-differences.html>

Paragraph 1

1. the lives of eloupcs
2. normalising ioggomrn
3. The tanmosiclp came after a show
4. After this edospei was aired
5. received a foodl
6. making this pcctoem seem normal

Paragraph 2

7. doecnrce what people would think
8. It's a otneigrena gap
9. spoke about the prhtnielsoia
10. He's just itevenssi
11. a lot of ubaes from neighbours
12. the local unmctoimy

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190531-age-differences.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () of couples with a big age difference. Viewers have accused the Channel 5 series Age Gap Love of "normalising
- () together when the man was 44 and his partner was 16. The man was originally a
- () grooming". The complaints came after a show that documented the relationship of a couple who got
- () man." Life has not been easy for the couple. When they first started dating, they received a lot of abuse
- () to think?" His wife also spoke about the relationship. She said: "The age doesn't really bother me. It never has
- () complaints from viewers who slammed the show for "making this concept seem normal".
- () dating her when she turned 16. After this episode was aired, the channel received a flood of
- () done. I don't see him as an old man, or my dad, or anything like that. He's just
- () The couple in the show are married and have two children. He is now 47 and she is 19. The man said: "I was
- () sensitive - like a big teddy bear." She added: "I've always wanted to have a family, so I just thought he would be the perfect
- () friend of the 16-year-old's mother. He became friendly with the daughter when she was a child and started
- () concerned what people would think. It's a big gap. It's a generation gap. So it's like, what are people going
- (**1**) A TV channel in the UK is under fire from members of the public for one of its programmes that follows the lives
- () from neighbours and the local community and had to move to another city.

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190531-age-differences.html>

1. fire . A TV in channel England under is
2. lives of The with big age differences . couples
3. of together . The relationship got a who couple
4. friend the mother . 16-year-old's of a Originally
5. a received The flood complaints . of channel
6. what I concerned think . people would was
7. spoke wife about His also relationship . the
8. would the he thought man . perfect be I
9. couple . been not has the easy Life for
10. received lot abuse of They from neighbours . a

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190531-age-differences.html>

A TV channel in the UK is under *firing / fire* from members of the public for one of its programmes that follows the lives of *couplets / couples* with a big age difference. Viewers have accused the Channel 5 *series / cereal* Age Gap Love of "normalising grooming". The complaints came *post / after* a show that documented the relationship of a couple *who / whose* got together when the man was 44 and his partner was 16. The man was *originally / original* a friend of the 16-year-old's mother. He became *friendliness / friendly* with the daughter when she was a child and started dating her when she *turns / turned* 16. After this episode was *aired / airy*, the channel received a flood of complaints from viewers who slammed the show for "making this *conceptual / concept* seem normal".

The couple in the *showing / show* are married and have two children. He is now 47 and she is 19. The man said: "I was *concerned / cornered* what people would think. It's a big gap. It's a *generation / generator* gap. So it's like, what are people going to think?" His wife also *spoken / spoke* about the relationship. She said: "The age doesn't really *bother / bothering* me. It never has done. I don't see him as an *olden / old* man, or my dad, or anything like that. He's just *sensitive / sensitively* - like a big teddy bear." She added: "I've always wanted to have a family, so I just thought he would be the *perfection / perfect* man." Life has not been easy for the couple. When they first started dating, they received a *lot / lots* of abuse from neighbours and the local community and had to move to *other / another* city.

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 <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190531-age-differences.html>

A TV ch_n n_l _n th_ UK _s _n d_r f_r_ fr_m
m_m b_r s _f th_ p_b l_c fr _n_ f _t_s pr_g r_m
m_s th_t f_l l_w s th_ l_v_s _f c__ pl_s w_th _
b_g _g_ d_f f_r_n c_. V__ w_r s h_v_ _c c_s_d th_ C
h_n n_l 5 s_r__ s Ag_ G_p L_v_ _f " n_r m_l_s_n g
g r__ m_n g ". Th_ c_m pl__ n_t_s c_m_ _f t_r _ s
h_w th_t d_c_m_n t_d th_ r_l_t__ n_s h_p _f _ c__
pl_ w_h_ g_t t_g_t h_r w_h_n th_ m_n w_s 44 _n
d h_s p_r t_n_r w_s 16. Th_ m_n w_s _r_g_n_l_l
y _ f_r__ n_d_l_y _f th_ 16 - y__ r -_l_d 's m_th_r.
H_ b_c_m_ f_r__ n_d_l_y w_th th_ d__ g_h_t_r w_h_n
s_h_ w_s _ c_h_l_d _n_d s_t_r_t_d d_t_n_g h_r w_h_n
s_h_ t_r_n_d 16. A_f_t_r th_s _p_s_d_ w_s __ r_d,
th_ c_h_n n_l r_c__ v_d _ f_l__ d _f c_m pl__ n_t_s f
r_m v__ w_r s w_h_ s_l_m m_d th_ s_h_w f_r "
m_k_n_g th_s c_n c_p_t s__ m n_r m_l".

Th_ c__ pl_ _n th_ s_h_w _r_ m_r r__ d _n_d h_v_
t_w_ c_h_l_d r_n. H_ _s n_w 47 _n_d s_h_ _s 19.
Th_ m_n s__ d: "I w_s c_n c_r n_d w_h_t p__ p
l_ w__ l_d t_h_n k _t 's _ b_g g_p. It 's _
g_n_r_t__ n g_p. S_ _t 's l_k_, w_h_t _r_ p__ pl_
g__ n_g t_ t_h_n k?" H_s w_f_ _l_s_ s_p_k_ _b__ t t
h_ r_l_t__ n_s h_p. S_h_ s__ d: "Th_ _g_ d__ s_n 't
r__ l_l_y b_t h_r m_. It n_v_r h_s d_n_. I d_n '
t s__ h_m _s _n _l_d m_n, _r m_y d_d, _r _n_y
t_h_n_g l_k_ th_t. H_ 's j_s_t s_n s_t_v_ - l_k_ _
b_g t_d d_y b__ r." S_h_ _d d_d: "I 'v_ _l_w_y s
w_n t_d t_ h_v_ _ f_m_l_y, s_ I j_s_t th__ g_h_t
h_ w__ l_d b_ th_ p_r f_c_t m_n." L_f_ h_s n_t
b__ n __ s_y f_r th_ c__ pl_. W_h_n th_y f_r s_t
s_t_r_t_d d_t_n_g, th_y r_c__ v_d _ l_t _f _b_s_ f
r_m n__ g_h b__ r_s _n_d th_ l_c_l c_m m_n_t_y _n_d
h_d t_ m_v_ t_ _n_t h_r c_t_y.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190531-age-differences.html>

a tv channel in the uk is under fire from members of the public for one of its programmes that follows the lives of couples with a big age difference viewers have accused the channel 5 series age gap love of normalising grooming the complaints came after a show that documented the relationship of a couple who got together when the man was 44 and his partner was 16 the man was originally a friend of the 16yearolds mother he became friendly with the daughter when she was a child and started dating her when she turned 16 after this episode was aired the channel received a flood of complaints from viewers who slammed the show for making this concept seem normal

the couple in the show are married and have two children he is now 47 and she is 19 the man said i was concerned what people would think its a big gap its a generation gap so its like what are people going to think his wife also spoke about the relationship she said the age doesnt really bother me it never has done i dont see him as an old man or my dad or anything like that hes just sensitive like a big teddy bear she added ive always wanted to have a family so i just thought he would be the perfect man life has not been easy for the couple when they first started dating they received a lot of abuse from neighbours and the local community and had to move to another city.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1905/190531-age-differences.html>

A TV channel in the UK is under fire from members of the public for one of its programmes that follows the lives of couples with a big age difference. Viewers have accused the Channel 5 series *Age Gap Love* of "normalising grooming". The complaints came after a show that documented the relationship of a couple who got together when the man was 44 and his partner was 16. The man was originally a friend of the 16-year-old's mother. He became friendly with the daughter when she was a child and started dating her when she turned 16. After this episode was aired, the channel received a flood of complaints from viewers who slammed the show for "making this concept seem normal". The couple in the show are married and have two children. He is now 47 and she is 19. The man said: "I was concerned what people would think. It's a big gap. It's a generation gap. So it's like, what are people going to think?" His wife also spoke about the relationship. She said: "The age doesn't really bother me. It never has done. I don't see him as a old man, or my dad, or anything like that. He's just sensitive - like a big teddy bear." She added: "I've always wanted to have a family, so I just thought he would be the perfect man." Life has not been easy for the couple. When they first started dating, they received a lot of abuse from neighbours and the local community and had to move to another city.

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 story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. AGE DIFFERENCES: Make a poster about age differences. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. LEGAL DIFFERENCE: Write a magazine article about having a maximum legal age difference. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

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 age differences in relationships. Ask him/her three questions about this. Give him/her three of your opinions on age differences. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. d 2. f 3. b 4. g 5. c 6. e 7. a
8. k 9. i 10. m 11. h 12. l 13. n 14. j

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

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

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| 1. channel | a. station |
| 2. difference | b. gap |
| 3. accused | c. blamed |
| 4. originally | d. initially |
| 5. aired | e. broadcast |
| 6. concerned | f. worried |
| 7. bother | g. trouble |
| 8. sensitive | h. thoughtful |
| 9. perfect | i. ideal |
| 10. move | j. relocate |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

- Members of the public
- Age Gap Love
- Sixteen
- The 16-year-old's mother
- Complaints
- Two
- A generation gap
- A teddy bear
- The perfect man
- Abuse

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

- A TV channel in England is under fire.
- The lives of couples with big age differences.
- The relationship of a couple who got together.
- Originally a friend of the 16-year-old's mother.
- The channel received a flood of complaints.
- I was concerned what people would think.
- His wife also spoke about the relationship.
- I thought he would be the perfect man.
- Life has not been easy for the couple.
- They received a lot of abuse from neighbours.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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