

Life is not easy when you are 14. I have problems with my parents. They don't understand me. When I wanted to find a part-time job not to ask for pocket money, they said-no, you are not old enough. They advised me to pay more attention to my study. If I go for a walk, I must be at home by 10 o'clock. They always ask me where and with whom I go out. I am not allowed to buy clothes for myself, they don't let me listen to my favourite music, they say-it's terrible.

I often argue with my parents because of clothes, apartment cleaning, etc. I'd like my parents to treat me as an adult person.

I'd like you to give me some advises. What shall I do? Do your parents always understand you? What do they let you do and forbid you to do? Please write me some words about it.

- drive a car
- buy alcohol
- buy clothes I want
- marry
- have a gun
- stay out after 11 o'clock
- have a part-time job
- ride a motorbike
- smoke
- wear jeans at school
- watch a category 18 film
- drink beer or wine
- observe a curfew
- show a diary
- eat what I want
- make friends who I want
- decide what to do after school

I am
allowed
or
forbidden

I am \ we are

allowed to

let

forbidden to

made

1. My parents allow me _____ buy everything I want.
2. My parents want me _____ study well.
3. They let me _____ stay out till 11 o'clock.
4. I am forbidden _____ get bad marks at school.
5. My parents make me _____ show my school diary.
6. I am allowed _____ ride a motorbike.

Test Yourself

1. My parents allow me _____ invite my friends home.
2. My parents make me _____ help about the house.
3. They let me _____ have a part-time job.
4. I am forbidden _____ marry.
5. My teachers want me _____ do all my homework.
6. I am not allowed _____ drink alcohol.

Coming of age(совершеннолетие) the 18th birthday of a person, when they become legally an adult. At 18 British people are allowed to vote in election, get married without the permission of their parents, and buy and drink alcohol in a pub. In the US, either the 18th or 21st birthday might be thought of as a coming of age; at 18 people are allowed to vote and get married, but in many states you cannot buy alcohol until you are 21.

I can _____ by law

I must _____ by law

1

1

2

2

3

3

4

4

5

5

6

6

Write a reply and ask three questions.

Dear Helen,

Thanks for your letter. It was great to hear from you. In your letter you asked me for advice. Well, you needn't to argue with your parents. Our parents don't always understand us; we have a bit different interests and values.

Your parents only want you to...

As for my parents, they try to ... They let me... I am forbidden to...

Please tell me more about it.

Write soon.

Love,

...