

## Living with mother

Main ideas

**A** Write the number of the paragraph or paragraphs next to the correct topic.

- 7   a. The age at which “walking marriages” can start  
 \_\_\_ b. Explanation of “walking marriages”  
 \_\_\_ c. Dashi’s living arrangements  
 \_\_\_ d. Effects of “walking marriages” on family life  
 \_\_\_ e. Divorce in Mosuo society  
 \_\_\_ f. Notion of marriage in Mosuo society

Details

**B** Check (✓) the correct column.

		True	False	Not in the text
1.	Men and women become couples when they are about 17 or 18 years old.	✓		
2.	Young couples have a formal marriage ceremony.			
3.	After a couple’s first child is born, the father’s family gives clothing to the mother’s family.			
4.	Uncles are very involved in their nieces’ and nephews’ lives.			
5.	Ending a relationship is very easy.			
6.	Children take their father’s family name.			

Inferencing

**C** What are the advantages and disadvantages of a “walking marriage”? Complete the chart with the sentences from the box.

- You choose how often to see your partner.  
 You’re closer to nieces and nephews.  
 You don’t see your children all the time.  
 It’s easy to split up.  
 You may have to travel far to see your partner.  
 Men are not financially responsible for their partner’s children.

Advantages	Disadvantages
<i>You choose how often to see your partner.</i>	

CHALLENGE

**D** Add one more advantage and one more disadvantage to the chart in Exercise C.

## Father's Day

Similarity in meaning

**A** Match each word with a word that is similar in meaning.

- |   |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|
| <u>  b  </u> 1. <i>convinced</i> (par. 4)   | a. <i>arranged</i> (par. 4)    |
| ___ 2. <i>a real piece of work</i> (par. 3) | b. <i>assure</i> (par. 5)      |
| ___ 3. <i>compassionate</i> (par. 4)        | c. <i>determined</i> (par. 5)  |
| ___ 4. <i>stubborn</i> (par. 5)             | d. <i>unusual</i> (par. 2)     |
| ___ 5. <i>planned</i> (par. 5)              | e. <i>softhearted</i> (par. 5) |

Sequencing

**B** Number the sentences from 1 (first event) to 7 (last event).

- \_\_\_ a. The author sent his aunt Father's Day cards.
- \_\_\_ b. The author was born.
- \_\_\_ c. The author's aunt helped him find his first job.
- \_\_\_ d. The author became very close to his aunt.
- \_\_\_ e. The author and his mother moved to Kentucky.
- 1   f. The author's aunt planned to have a large family.
- \_\_\_ g. The author's father died.

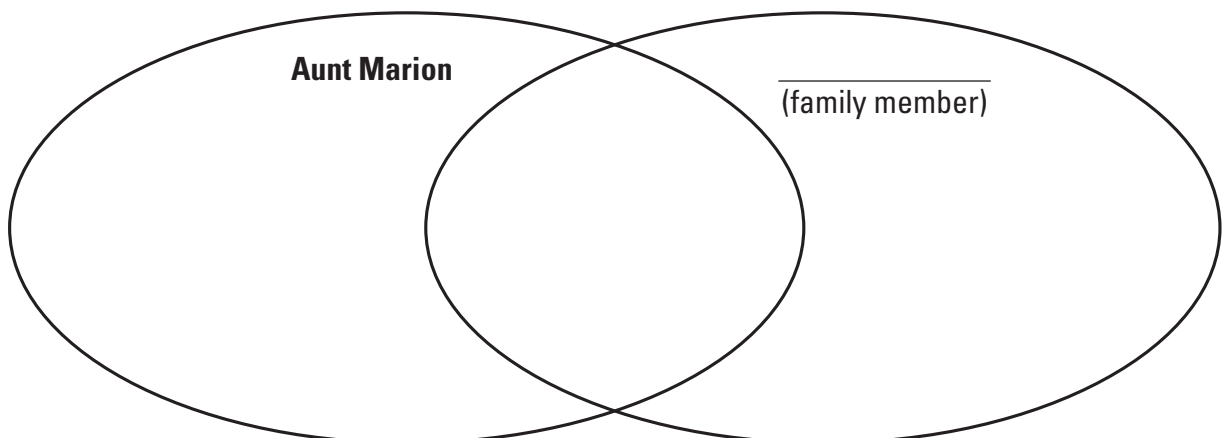
Details

**C** Correct the false statements.

- The author doesn't have ~~any~~ <sup>many</sup> pictures of his father.
- The author grew up with his aunt, mother, and grandfather.
- The author and his aunt have very different personalities.
- The author's aunt worked at the same job for more than 60 years.
- For many years, the author sent his aunt a photo on Father's Day.

CHALLENGE

**D** Compare Aunt Marion with a family member. How are they similar? How are they different? Complete the diagram.



## The incredible shrinking family

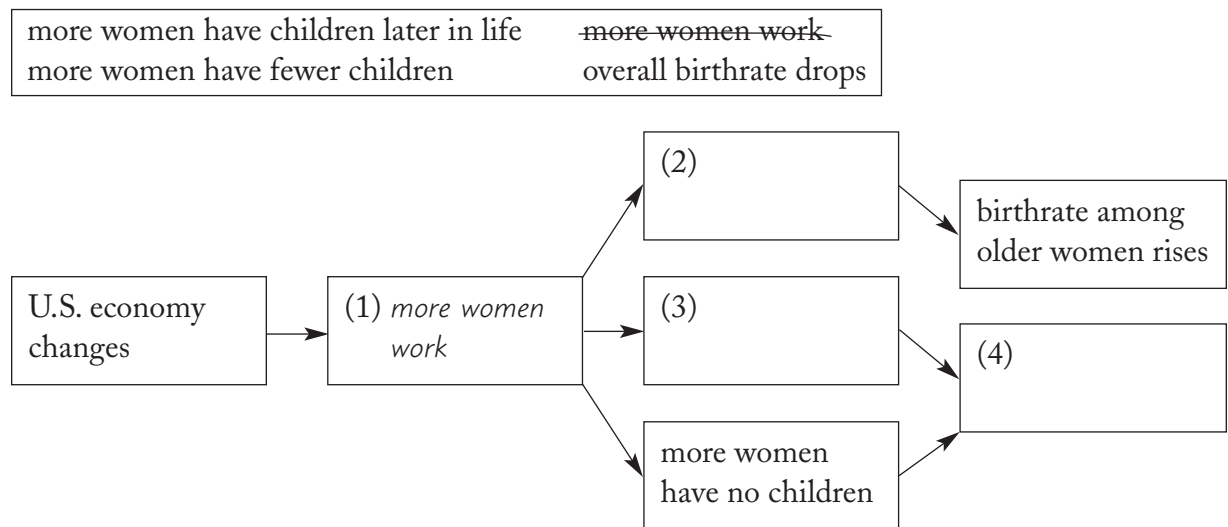
Summarizing

**A** Complete the summary with *risen* or *fallen*.

The number of working women in the United States has (1) \_\_\_\_\_ *risen* \_\_\_\_\_ steadily since the 1970s. At the same time, the number of women who choose not to have any children has (2) \_\_\_\_\_ significantly. And although the number of women over the age of 30 who are having babies has (3) \_\_\_\_\_, the number of very young women having babies has (4) \_\_\_\_\_ dramatically. Thus, the overall birthrate in the United States has (5) \_\_\_\_\_ significantly since the 1970s. As the number of women entering the workforce continues to climb, this trend is likely to continue.

Cause and effect

**B** Complete the diagram with the phrases from the box.



Restating

**C** Compare the meaning of each pair of sentences. Write *same (S)* or *different (D)*.

- S   1. By the late eighties, a small majority (51.7 percent) still continued to believe that women shouldn't contribute to the income of the household. (par. 1)  
 At the end of the 1980s, more than half of the people thought that women should not work.
2. . . . as the economy has changed, the birthrate among married women has steadily dropped . . . (par. 2)  
 Due to a changing economy, married women are having fewer and fewer children.
3. Nineteen percent of women between the ages of forty and forty-five have never had a child. (par. 2)  
 About 81% of women have children.
4. In the state of Massachusetts, more babies are now born to women over thirty than under thirty. (par. 3)  
 In Massachusetts today, a woman is more likely to have a baby if she is over thirty than if she is under thirty.