

Warmer – Advising your teacher

Your teacher will tell you about a personal problem s/he has at the moment. Listen carefully. Working in groups talk about what your teacher should do and then give your teacher some advice.

Task 1 – Reading about the problems of people in Shakespeare’s plays

These people have written to an online magazine to get advice from readers. Read the problems and answer the questions.

I really need some good advice. I met the man of my dreams at a party last night. He’s **handsome**, exciting and he says such nice things to me - I can’t stop thinking about him. I am only fourteen years old but I know that this is love.

Unfortunately, my family **can’t stand** his family. They have fought with each other since I was a child. If my family knew how I felt about this man they would **lock** me in my bedroom and throw away the key! Even worse, Mum thinks she can choose my boyfriends for me - and she **has very bad taste** in men. I love this **guy** so much and I don’t want to lose him. If I marry him, I will lose my family - forever.

What should I do?

Juliet Capulet (Verona, Italy)

I need you to help me because I’m feeling really **depressed**. My dad died a few months ago. That was bad enough, but then my mum married his brother, Uncle Claudius. I’ve never liked Uncle Claudius - and I don’t think he likes me either. Now he lives with us in our house and we have to listen to his **awful** heavy metal music all the time.

I know this sounds crazy but I saw my dad last night. He told me that Uncle Claudius **murdered** him. Now all I can think about is killing my uncle. Am I going crazy? Mum won’t listen to me – she says I need to see a doctor.

Please help me,

Hamlet (Prince of Denmark)

1. Whose father has died recently?
2. Who doesn’t think their mum has good taste in men?
3. Who has seen a ghost recently?
4. Who is in love?
5. Who needs someone to give them some good advice?

Task 2 – Vocabulary in context

Match the definitions 1-8 with the words in **bold** in the texts in **Task 1**.

1. shut with a key so no one can get out *lock*
2. killed
3. good looking
4. very bad
5. when someone likes things that you think are bad
6. boy / man
7. very sad
8. hate

Task 3 – Matching advice with problems

Six readers have posted advice for Hamlet and Romeo. Read each piece of advice, and decide if it is for Hamlet or Juliet.

1. Finally your old mum is happy and all you can do is think of yourself. You shouldn't be so selfish!
2. If I were you I'd forget this boy and think about my school work – you're only fourteen years old!
3. If you really think he did it, you should go to the police. Have you tried talking to a teacher at school?
4. True love doesn't come along every day. You ought to take your chance for happiness with both hands!
5. If I were you I'd forget him – boyfriends come and go but your Mum will always be there for you.
6. I think your Mum is right. You ought to go to the doctor.

Task 4 – Giving advice

- a.** Find and underline all the different ways of giving advice you can find in the readers' advice section.
- b.** Read the advice. Choose the correct word to complete the sentence.
1. Next time you see your dad's ghost you should / ought ask him some questions.
 2. You should / shouldn't marry this guy- you're too young.
 3. If I were you, I'd / I should find out more about your uncle – does he have a police record?
 4. Tell / Don't tell your Mum and Dad how you feel – they were young once and they will understand.
 5. You should / ought to buy headphones – then you won't have to listen to your uncle's music.
- c.** Work with a partner. Practice saying the sentences.

Task 5 – Role play: sharing problems and giving advice

Work in groups. Read the information on your character card. You are going to ask your classmates for their advice. Take 5 minutes to prepare what you are going to say. Your teacher will give you some more problems to read. Working in groups, prepare advice.

In new groups, tell your classmates your problem, and listen to their advice. Give your classmates advice using the language you have learned this lesson.