

## INVESTICE DO ROZVOJE VZDĚLÁVÁNÍ

### ***PERSONAL FACTS - vocabulary***

#### **Name and family**

Surname, first name, middle name, date of birth, place of birth, sex, mother's maiden name, father's name, mother's occupation, father's occupation

#### **Address**

Street and number, city / town, postcode, telephone

#### **Appearance**

Height, weight, race, nationality, eye colour, hair colour, health

#### **Education**

Kindergarten, primary, secondary tertiary, other training, languages, other skills

#### **Employment**

Full-time, part-time, casual

#### **Hobbies and interests**

Pastimes, sports, music, travel experiences, clubs/organizations

#### **Religion**

Catholic, Protestant, Jewish

### ***Answer these questions in writing***

1. What does success mean to you?
2. What can you do to become successful?
3. Why do some people succeed and other fail in life?
4. Is success the result of natural ability or hard work?
5. Can a person experience only success, or, are failures stepping-stones to success?
6. How important is success in your life?
7. What do you consider the greatest success in your life so far?

### ***STAGES OF LIFE - vocabulary***

#### **Prenatal development**

Embryo, fetus

### **Childhood / youth / adulthood**

Newborn, infant toddler, youngster / adolescent, teenager / young adult, engaged couple, fiancée/fiancé

### **Married life**

Married couple, daughter-in-law, son-in-law, sister-in-law, brother-in-law

### **Parenthood**

Mother/father, son/daughter, foster parent, foster child, adopted child, stepmother, stepfather, stepson, stepdaughter, stepbrother, stepsister, middle-aged couple, mother-in-law, father-in-law

### **Old age**

Grandparent, grandchild, great-grandchild, pensioner, retiree, widow, widower

### ***Complete this story of Marianne's using a suitable verb in each gap***

Marianne was (1)..... in a hospital just five minutes from the house where her parents lived, and she (2)..... up in the same house. When she was fifteen, she (3)..... Paul at a disco. He became her first real boyfriend and she (4) ..... with him for over three years, but unfortunately they (5) ..... when Marianne (6).....to university. She had lots of boyfriends in her first year at university, then she (7)..... Alex. They (8).....in love and (9).....married the year after Marianne graduated. They both went abroad to work for a few years but returned when they decided to start a family. And by a happy coincidence, Marianne (10) ..... their first baby, a boy, in the same hospital where she was (11)..... . Now, five years later, she is (12) ..... a second child.

KEY: 1 born, 2 grew / was brought, 3 met/saw, 4 went out, 5 split up / broke up, 6 went, 7 met, 8 fell, 9 got, 10 had, 11 born, 12 expecting

### ***Read the article and then do the exercises below.***

#### **Single-parent families**

Single-parent families are families with children **under age 18** headed by a parent who is **widowed** or **divorced** and **not remarried**, or by a parent who has **never married**.

Since 1950, the number of one-parent families has increased substantially in the USA. In 1970, about 11% of children lived in single-parent families; in 1996 it was about 31%.

Nowadays it is about 34% in the USA, while it is **about 30% on the whole** all around the world.

**The reasons** for single-parent families have also changed. In the mid-twenties century, most single-parent families came about because of **the death of a spouse**. In the 1980s most of them were the result of **divorce**. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, more and more single parents have **never married** and many of these single parents live with an adult partner, sometimes even the unmarried father of their child.

**The most common type** of single-parent family is one that consists of a **mother and her biological children**. Households headed by a **single father** increased substantially after the early 1980s, reflecting society's changing attitudes about the role of fathers in child rearing.

Nowadays, there are about **16%** of single fathers, however, they are much more likely to be divorced than never married and much more likely to be sharing a home with an adult to whom they are not married.

Single-parent families face **special challenges** and children growing up in such families can have **problems**, many of them directly **related to the poor economic condition**, not just to parenting style.

**They are at risk for the following:**

- lower level of education
- to drop out school
- to become teen parents
- more conflicts with their parents
- less supervised by adults
- to become truants
- drug and alcohol abuse
- high-risk sexual behaviour
- to join a gang
- to go to a jail
- emotional and behavioural problems
- participation in violent crime
- committing suicide
- to get divorced in adulthood

Despite these facts children from single-parent families can grow up doing well in school and maintaining healthy behaviour and relationships although they face a tougher time economically and emotionally.

**Being a single parent** can be **hard and lonely**. There is often no other adult with whom to share decision-making, discipline and financial responsibilities. The full burden of finding responsible childcare, earning a living, and parenting falls on one individual.

However, **the lack of a second parent** often has **a less negative impact** on children than family instability, lack of structure, and inconsistent enforcement of parental standards. Studies has also found that children who live in a two-parent family where one parent is abusive or has a high level of antisocial behaviour do not do as well as children whose parents divorce if **the child then lives in a single-parent family with the non-abusive parent.**

If parents feel that their **child is out of control**, they can get help from the child's school, social service agencies, and mental health professionals. There are also a lot of organizations that provide **social, emotional, financial and legal support** for single-parent families.

### **Exercise**

**Decide if the following statements are “true” or “false”.**

1. If you live unmarried with your child's father, you are not a single parent.
2. The current percentage of one-parent families in the USA is comparable with the overall percentage.
3. Divorce was the most common reason for single-parent families in the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.
4. Most single fathers haven't ever married.
5. Children from single-parent families are more likely to avoid school deliberately.
6. All single-parent families have poor economic conditions.
7. Living in a two-parent family is always for children better than living in a single-parent family.
8. Single parents having problems with parenting can always get some help.

KEY: 1. F, 2. T, 3. T, 4. F, 5. T, 6. F, 7. T, 8. T

