



ENGLISH REINFORCEMENT
GRADE 901

Student names: _____

Talk about Large Families and Small Families

1. Read about large and small families.

Families Come in All Sizes

On November 18, 1997, Bobbi and Kenny McCaughey of the United States were the happy parents of one child – their daughter Mikayla. The next day, they had eight children. Bobbi gave birth to septuplets – three more daughters and four new sons. At first it was very hard. They live in a small house and the needed lots of help. Now it is better. They live in a big house and the children help with the housework.

Barry and Julia Rollings of Camberra, Astrualia started with just two daughters: Alix and Briony. Then, between 1991 and 1998, they adopted six more children – five sons and one daughter. Barry also has four adult children from his first marriage. People always ask them, “How many kids do you have now?” Julia says, “I love my family and my life!” And she adds, “Barry likes housework.”

In traditional Chinese culture, families were very large. But in mainland China today, with a population of over 1,000,000,000 people, the government has a one-child policy: in most places, a family can have only one child. In the future, there will be no aunts, uncles, or cousin. Why? Because there will be no sisters or brothers.

Many people don't agree with the one-child policy. But all agree that one advantage of a small family is that parents have more money for their children.

2. Now read the following statements. Figure out if they are true or false, based on the information of the reading.

- | | | | |
|---|---------|----------|------------|
| a. Septuplets are seven children born at the same time. | True___ | False___ | No Info___ |
| b. Alix and Briony Rollings are twins. | True___ | False___ | No Info___ |
| c. Julia Rollings is Barry's first wife. | True___ | False___ | No Info___ |
| d. The traditional Chinese family was a one-child family. | True___ | False___ | No Info___ |



3. According to the reading, what are the advantages and disadvantages of small and large families? Match the information in the two columns.

- ___ 1. An advantage of a small family
- ___ 2. An advantage of a large family
- ___ 3. a disadvantage of a small family
- ___ 4. A disadvantage of a large family

- a. Families have more money.
- b. There are too many in the house.
- c. Children don't have brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles or cousins.
- d. Children help their parents with the housework.

INTERACTION

Small or Large?

4. Write some more advantages and disadvantages of small and large families.

A SMALL FAMILY

ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES

A LARGE FAMILY

ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES

5. Discussion. What kind of family do you prefer? A small family or a large family?

I prefer a _____ family because _____
