**All**

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**“Families are like peanut brittle. It takes a lot of sweetness to hold all the nuts together” *from Used People (film)***

Belonging to a family is another important relationship in our lives. We can choose our friends but, like it or not, we are born into families and we must, for the most part, manage with those with whom we find ourselves. However these various relationships work out, our interactions with family members have a profound influence throughout our lives.

**Before Reading**

* What comes to your mind when you think about family?
* Complete the family opinionnaire

\_\_\_\_\_\_ There is one single description that fits all families.

Reason:

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Family members have responsibility to each other and to the family unit.

Reason:

\_\_\_\_\_\_ A parent should be a teenager’s best friend.

Reason:

\_\_\_\_\_\_ All members of a family are equally responsible for the protection of the family unit.

Reason:

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Families are closer to each other on happy occasions than in crisis.

Reason:

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Conflict is a given in a family.

Reason:

\_\_\_\_\_\_ A family maintains its unity by sharing mutual responsibility.

Reason:

\_\_\_\_\_\_ The family as a whole must agree on how to solve problems.

Reason:

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Above all, individuals must be loyal to the family.

Reason:

* What does the visual that accompanies the poem suggest about the poem’s topic and tone?

**After Reading**

* What is the relationship that exists between the speaker of the poem and his/her family?
* Why is the poem titled “All”?
* List five memories that you have of your family

**Extension Activity**

What is your relationship like with your parents? If we could eavesdrop on a conversation between you and one of your parents/guardians, what would we hear?

**Role play a typical conversation between you and one of your parents or guardians.**

1. Perhaps using the memories you constructed in the *After Reading* section, brainstorm ideas for a topic that would common for a conversation between you and your parent/guardian.
2. Using the computer or on paper, draft a role-play conversation between you and one of your parents/guardians.
3. Practice this conversation with a peer who agrees to play the role of your parent/guardian. Give them tips on how they should sound and any mannerisms that are required