

Carl: Jen, do you think the young have anything to learn from the elderly?

Jen: Well Carl, older people are said to have more experience.

Carl : I've heard that argument time and time again, but nobody ever says what kind of experience!

Jen :They've been tested throughout their lives. They are the survivors of our society.

Carl: But does it relate to the problems of the young people today?

Jen: Older people have been there before. They've had problems andthe solutions as well.

Carl: I'm not sure .You see, today's young live in a different age. For a start, they don't go looking for information on the shelves of their local reference library. If they need any kind of advice, they'll find it on the Internet.

Jen: It seems that you're confusing quantity of information with quality of information. Nobody knows you better than someone in your own family. You don't need a global instrument to solve a local problem. Let's look at the other side of the coin. What can the young teach the elderly?

Carl: If the elderly are receptive, they could share some of the benefits of information technology.

Jen: Isn't it rather that they enjoy getting out and about instead of sitting next to a ? next to a telephone? Don't you think they're right to be suspicious of technology which is turning us all into screen-gazers and zombies?

Vocabulary



Argument



Suspicious



Achievements

Response

1. Do you agree with Carol's point of view?
2. Trace the differences between the old and the young as mentioned in the dialog?
3. How can we harmonize the young and the old generation?



Express Yourself

1. Should adults try to teach young people lessons, such as the dangers of drinking too much, taking drugs or contracting the HIV virus, or should they leave them alone to find out about these things for themselves?
2. Most countries give young people rights as they reach a certain age. For example, British people can legally fight for their country at the age of 16; they can drink, vote and drive a car when they are 18.

Does your country have similar laws?

Do you think that any of the age requisite need to be changed?

3. Should young people have to do some form of military or community service ?
4. Should people of age between 60 and 65 be obliged to retire from their jobs in order to make way for younger workers?