

How Flexible Are You?



1. Your family just moved to a new town. You:

- a) assume that you're going to hate your new school.
- b) blame your parents for ruining your life.
- c) decide to make the best of it and see what happens.
- d) refuse to unpack and give everyone the silent treatment.

2. Your new stepsister asks to borrow a sweatshirt that you don't wear any more. You:

- a) let her borrow it.
- b) refuse because you don't want her to get in the habit of borrowing your stuff.
- c) say yes even though you don't totally trust her yet.
- d) make a deal—she can borrow it if you can see her playlist.

3. Your aunt and her kids moved in with your family. You don't know for how long. You:

- a) silently resent the extra people, the noise, and the lack of privacy.
- b) tell your parents how you feel.
- c) stay away from home as much as possible.
- d) retaliate against your cousins.

4. Your stepmom is more particular about keeping things neat than your mom. You:

- a) leave stuff around just to annoy her.
- b) clean up partway but leave the rest.
- c) complain to your friends about her.
- d) talk to your dad about the situation.

5. Your dad hurt his leg. He can't go to work and may lose his job. You:

- a) worry about whether your family will have enough money.
- b) resent that he gets to sit home and watch TV all day.
- c) ask how you can help the family.
- d) pretend you don't care when you really do.

Answers:

- 1. c.** An open mind and a positive outlook can help smooth a rough transition.
- 2. a.** Kindness helps newly blended families bond.
 - d.** Another smart move that lets you expand your playlist while keeping the peace.
- 3. b.** Communicating about tough situations can help everyone weather the storm. You'll get information you can use to deal with what's happening.
- 4. d.** In a new living situation, it may take time to get used to everyone else's way of doing things. Talking through rules can prevent them from becoming big issues.
- 5. c.** Working together helps families grow stronger during times of change.