

1.

I could feel the judging eyes of my family burning a hole into the back of my head as I picked up my phone. All of a sudden, the chattering in the living room died and all I could hear was the sound of the turkey sizzling (发出嘶嘶声) in the oven.

"Look at her! She's been on her phone all day long! It's all your fault! Children will never respect elders if they are not taught how to behave!" my grandmother shouted.

I was very shocked and angry! I opened my mouth to say something, but words failed me and I just sat down quietly on the chair like a mouse in its trap. I thought "Here we go again." I truly love my family and I would do anything for them. I also know that they would do anything for me as well. However, there are moments that make me feel like they are just stuck with me. They all agree on one thing: technology is wrecking me.

If I am going to be treated like a child or completely ignored, I will most likely not enjoy your company, and I feel like this applies to (适用于) the majority of the people. So I sometimes simply shut myself in my room and listened to the voices coming from the living room, thinking: They all grew up in a world so different that it amazes me how they have actually gotten this far. They did not have phones or any type of advanced technology, which is both good and bad. Bad because they had almost no type of fast communication, and good because they were forced to interact (互动) with one another, which is something today's society is lacking in. However, maybe if they made an effort to be aware of how things work nowadays, they would not be so against everything.

1. What happened when the author picked up her smart phone?

- A. Her family laughed at her. B. Her family kept silent.
C. She felt like having headache. D. She smelt something burning.

2. The underlined word in the third paragraph probably means _____.

- A. punishing B. encouraging
C. ruining D. saving

3. We can infer from the passage that the author felt it hard _____.

- A. to do something to please her family
B. to satisfy her family's high expectation
C. to get along with her family in some way
D. to move out or break away from her family

4. The author uses the last paragraph to show that _____.

- A. it is important to strengthen understanding among the family
B. it is necessary to treat each other well in the family
C. it is hard for the older people to accept the advanced technology
D. it is her duty to provide her family with a happier life in the future

2.

My daughter Kelly is a cautious person. She needs to warm up to situations, and is hesitant (犹豫的) to try new things. When with close friends, she becomes a leader who laughs loudly and chants. But when that comfort zone is not around her, she is shy and nervous.

This has been challenging for me at times. "Shy" is not a word that I think has ever been used to describe me. But this has been a year of firsts for my girl that has filled her with a new sense of confidence. This year she moved to lap lane (习泳区) in swimming where she was preparing for a swim team. This year she learned to ride a bike without training wheels. And this year she completed her first kids' triathlon (三项全能).

On Saturday, with a thunderstorm coming soon and my son's birthday party later in the day, we all went out in the dark of the morning for Kelly to participate in her first triathlon. We practiced transitions from swim to bike to run with her, we got all the equipment she'd need, and we kept talking about the race. But as we waited the two hours for the older kids to finish before her turn, she held my leg a little harder and told me she loved me a few too many times. She was nervous but trying to keep it together.

And then it was her turn. From the second she jumped into the water, my heart soared. My daughter transformed into the most confident human being I had ever seen. She dominated (主宰) that swim, crushed that bike ride and ran to the finish with the biggest smile on her face.

I can honestly say that I never felt so proud of someone in my entire life. It wasn't because she did a sport or anything like that. It was because she was afraid of something and conquered that fear with confidence and a fire I hadn't seen before.

All day I would find myself just looking over at her and smiling. She might be wearing the finalist medal but I felt like I won that day. I won the chance to see my girl shine. Shine on, sweet baby.

5. Kelly is nervous when _____.

- A. boys are around her B. she changes into a leader
C. she is away from her mom D. situations are new to her