

Lesson 67: Raising Kids

By Xandra

1. Dialogue

First, repeat after your tutor. Then, practice each role.

Ben: Shin, is it okay to get off work early today? The school teacher has just called. She needs to talk to me about my son.

Shinichiro: Is everything okay? Is your son in trouble?

Ben: The teacher didn't say but she sounded pretty upset. My son's been **acting up** in school lately. I don't understand. He's well-behaved at home.

Shinichiro: You know how kids are. I'm sure your son's just having a little fun. But sometimes, you have to be a little stern with them.

Ben: What should I do?

Shinichiro: Teach them a little discipline. He'll listen to you. It's your job as head of the family.

Ben: Do you punish your kids?

Shinichiro: I don't have to. My wife gives the punishment. And I just have to say, "Do what your mother says" to my kids.

2. Today's Phrase

First, repeat after your tutor. Then, make a few sentences using Today's phrase.

1. Will someone please call the technician? The copier's been **acting up** lately.

2. My dog's been **acting up** all morning. I wonder what's wrong.

3. Grandpa is having problems with his knee. His arthritis is **acting up** again.

* acting up / (子供が) ふざけて騒ぐ、暴れる ; (機械などが) 正常に機能・動作しない

3. Your Task

Your fiancé would like to have a big family and he would like to have five children. In your case, you just want one child. Talk to your fiancé (=your tutor) and tell him the disadvantages of having many children. Convince him that having one child is enough for both of you.

4. Let's Talk

Do you remember being punished by your parents when you were younger? Tell your tutor about it.

How often do you see your parents? Would you prefer a big extended family or a small nuclear one? Why?

5. Today's photo

Describe the photo in your words as precisely as possible.



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