

Western countries the provision of high-quality child support is limited, with parenting manuals often expecting babies to spend extended periods of time playing alone.

The study also notes that Stone Age societies may have better prioritized giving mothers a rest. In Western societies, the authors write, it is common for childcare to be used only to give parents time to go to work rather than time for themselves. This means that parents have no time to rest or recover, in total contrast to the parenting practices of both modern hunter-gatherers and our Neolithic ancestors. Co-author and child psychologist Dr Annie Swanepoel says that ‘support for mothers also has numerous benefits for children such as reducing the risk of neglect and abuse and improving maternal wellbeing, which in turn improves maternal care’. And yet, throughout the whole of human history, it seems that parents have never been under such intense pressure and faced such a lack of support as they do in modern times.és

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hunter-gatherer: caçadores-recol·lectors / cazadores-recolectores

be at odds: estar en desacord / estar en desacuerdo

insights: perspectives / perspectivas

childbearing systems: sistemas de criança / sistemas de crianza

foraging: recol·lectar al bosc / recolectar en el bosque

Answer the questions below **using complete sentences**. Each question is worth 0.5 points with a total of 3 points. Up to 0.3 points might be deducted from the total mark for lack of intelligibility in the answers provided. **You may use fragments from the text unless specified not to do so.**

1. Explain one fact that led evolutionary anthropologists to conclude that our Stone Age ancestors gave children better childcare than we do today. **DO NOT COPY FRAGMENTS FROM THE TEXT.**

2. How did the researchers of the study collect data on the childcare practices of the Mbendjele BaYaka?

3. Why might older children and teens in the Mbendjele BaYaka community feel less anxious about parenting, according to the text?

4. In what sense do parenting manuals contribute to high-quality child support being limited in Western countries?

5. Rewrite the following sentence from the text in your own words:

"The study also notes that Stone Age societies may have better prioritized giving mothers a rest."

You may keep grammatical words (i.e. may, a, the, etc.) and the following words/phrases in your sentence: Stone Age, mothers.

6. Find a sentence in the text that means what has been paraphrased below:

"these results indicate that the way parents behave in present-day societies might be in disagreement with/might not be suited to children's age requirements"

III. Writing (4 points)

Choose ONE topic. Your answer should be 125-150 words in length. There is no specific penalty for exceeding 150 words in length. Extra points are not given for exceeding 150 words. [4 points]

1. The High School Debate League is organizing a debate on the pros and cons of fast fashion and the role that cheap manufacturing and low prices play in the issue. In order to prepare for the debate, your English teacher has asked you to write a **for-and-against** essay where you should consider the two sides of fast fashion. Reflect on the advantages and disadvantages that fast fashion brings from a personal as well as social and economic point of view and bring the essay to an end with a personal opinion on the matter.

2. Your school participates in an exchange program with other European countries and your class is preparing for the visit of a group of students from Lithuania. You have been asked to make a list with a description of different places to visit in Catalonia while the Lithuanian group is here. Write a **description of a place** you think should be included in this list. Explain what this place is, where it is, how to get there from your school, what special characteristics it has, what you can do there and why you think it's suitable for the occasion.