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A few years ago it was fashionable to speak of a generation gap, a division between young people and their elders. Parents complained that children did not show them proper respect and obedience, while children complained that their parents did not understand them at all. What had gone wrong? Why had the generation gap suddenly appeared? Actually, the generation gap has been around for a long time. Many critics argue that it is built into the fabric of our society. One important cause of the generation gap is the opportunity that young people have to choose their own life style. In more traditional societies, when children grow up, they are expected to live in the same area as their parents, to marry people that their parents know and approve of, and often to continue the family occupation. In our society, young people often travel great distances for their educations, move out of the family home at an early age. marry or live with people whom their parents have never met, and choose occupations different from those of their parents. In our upwardly mobile society, parents often expect their children to do better than they did: to find better jobs, to make more money, and to do all the things that they were unable to do. Often, however, the ambitions that parents have for their children are another cause of the division between them. Often, they discover that they have very little in common with each other. Finally, the speed at which changes take

place in our society is another cause of the gap between the generations. In a traditional culture, elderly people are valued for their wisdom, but in our society the knowledge of a lifetime may become obsolete overnight. The young and the old seem to live in two very different worlds, separated by different skills and abilities. No doubt, the generation gap will continue to be a feature of American life for some time to come. Its causes are rooted in the freedoms and opportunities of our society, and in the rapid pace at which society changes.

11. The main idea of the first paragraph is that _____. (A) the generation gap suddenly appeared (B) the generation gap is a feature of American life (C) how people can reduce the generation gap (D) many critics argue over the nature of the generation gap

12. The word "around" in paragraph 1 means _____. (A) on all sides (B) in every direction (C) near (D) in existence

13. Which one is NOT the cause of the generation gap? (A) Young people like to choose their own life styles. (B) American society is changing very fast. (C) Parents place high hopes on their children. (D) Modern education makes them think differently.

14. In American society, young people often _____. (A) rely on their parents to make a life (B) stay with their parents in order to get an opportunity for higher education (C) seek the best advice from their parents (D) have very little in common with their parents

15. Which of the following statements is TRUE according to the reading passage? (A) Parents should be more tolerable towards their children. (B) The younger generation should value the older generation for their wisdom. (C) The generation gap is partly created

by the elder generation. (D) the generation gap should be avoidable in American society. 100Test 下载频道开通，各类考试题目直接下载。详细请访问 www.100test.com