

Grade 8 English Home Language Worksheet

Manipulative language use

1. In the text below, identify THREE examples of language where the child tries to manipulate his parents. Write down the sentences or parts of sentences that show manipulation:

It is all very well to say that I have done badly this term, but why take away my phone? You are not being fair! If you take away my phone, then I have no reason to work hard. You'll see – you make my life miserable, and I'll make YOUR life miserable. (3)

2. Rewrite the whole paragraph in a way that the parent would find more reasonable. (7)

[10]

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Suggested Solutions

1. Manipulative language:

It is all very well to say that I have done badly this term, but why take away my phone? You are not being fair! If you take away my phone, then I have no reason to work hard. You'll see – you make my life miserable, and I'll make YOUR life miserable. (3)

2. I accept that my marks this term were not very good, and I am sorry. I see the need to punish me, but I would like you to think again about taking away my phone. Can you not decide on a date when I could get it back and what I must do before that to earn it back? If I am just miserable, with nothing to work towards, I'll be unmotivated; so, if we could negotiate this, I would be more inspired to work better. (7)

[10]