

Theme 1: Teenage Life

Situation 1: Using and Abusing the Internet

There is a conflict between parents and their teenage child because the child is spending a large amount of time using the Internet. The parents are called Mr and Mrs Wong and their teenage child is called Chris Wong. Chris is normally energetic and outgoing. Mr Chu is Chris's class teacher and is worried about Chris, who has been falling asleep a lot in school recently. He speaks to Mr and Mrs Wong during Parents' Day. They are sitting in a classroom in Chris's school.

Characters: Mr Wong

Mrs Wong

Chris Wong

Mr Chu

Note: Chris Wong can be either male or female.

SCRIPT

- Mr Chu:** Good afternoon, Mr and Mrs Wong. Please sit down. Sit down, Chris. How are you today?
- Mr Wong:** We are fine, thank you, Mr Chu. How are you?
- Mr Chu:** Very well indeed.
- Mrs Wong:** Chris, sit up and pay attention! It is rude to yawn in front of your teacher, you know! I'm so sorry, Mr Chu.
- Mr Chu:** Actually, I am glad that you are all here today, because it is a good chance for us to talk.
- Chris:** Talk?
- Mr Wong:** Stop that! We are quite worried about Chris, I must say, Mr Chu...
- Chris:** Don't talk about me as if I wasn't here. I am not deaf, you know.
- Mr Chu:** Please calm down everyone. Now Chris, I have taught you for three years. In fact, you used to be one of the best students in my class. I feel quite worried about you because your marks have been dropping and your teachers say that you are always falling asleep in their lessons. So. . .
- Mrs Wong:** Yes, we know! Chris, you spend so much time in your bedroom at home. I don't think you are studying. You are surfing the Internet late at night, aren't you?
- Chris:** I'm just talking to my friends, Mum.
- Mrs Wong:** It is not healthy to talk to your friends at 3 o'clock in the morning!
- Chris:** Stop it, Mum! It is my bedroom and my computer. I will do whatever I want!
- Mr Chu:** Everyone, please calm down!
- Mr Wong:** The truth is that your mother and I are worried about you, Chris.
- Mr Chu:** I am also worried about you.
- Mr Wong:** We just don't understand why you are spending so much time on the Internet. Your mother and I have to go to work in the morning, so we can't monitor your use of the Internet at night. We want to be able to trust you.
- Mrs Wong:** That's right. Besides, you look very pale and unhealthy.

Name: _____

Class: _____ ()

Chris: Ok, ok! I had a bad cold last week! Can't we just talk about my school report?

Mr Chu: Yes, we can talk about your school report Chris, but we are also worried about you.

Mrs Wong: You won't be able to go to university unless your grades improve, Chris.

Mr Wong: Your Mum and I just think it is bad for you to spend so much time on the Internet. Can't you meet your friends during the day and go shopping or go to the movies?

Chris: I don't want to do either of those things. This is so embarrassing. I am not talking about this anymore.

Mr Chu: Is something wrong, Chris?

Chris: What?

Mr Chu: You used to be very outgoing and friendly. Now you are always very quiet.

Chris: Look, I am doing my best. Maybe I just can't be top of the class.

Mrs Wong: What? We have never said we want you to be top of the class.

Chris: I know it is what you expect.

Mr Chu: Do you feel under pressure, Chris?

Chris: I also feel pressure in school, Mr Chu.

Mr Chu: So is that why you like to spend so much time on the Internet at home?

Chris: I want to leave.

Mr Wong: Sit down! We are not finished yet!

Mrs Wong: Don't shout at Chris. It isn't helpful.

Chris: That's right. I am not the one to blame!

Mr Chu: Chris, please calm down. Now maybe we can start talking about this more calmly. Your parents and I just want to help you, Chris.

Chris: Oh really?