

Understanding the fantasies and realities about a military homecoming

Homecomings are exciting and happy times. But they can be difficult times, too. Changes of any kind can be hard for a family, even change that you look forward to. On the left are thoughts that show how people wish homecomings would always be. Many people fantasize or daydream about how perfect a homecoming will be. On the right are thoughts that are more realistic, and show that homecomings can be difficult, even when they are happy.

Draw a line from each thought that is a “fantasy” to the thought that is more realistic about the situation.

1. Kids are always the first priority when a parent comes home from the military.
 2. There are never arguments when there is a homecoming, because everyone is so happy.
 3. Kids always have fun at a homecoming.
 4. Homecomings are always easy because everyone is happy.
 5. You are always overjoyed at a homecoming.
- A. HOMECOMINGS ARE USUALLY VERY HAPPY TIMES, BUT THERE ARE SOMETIMES DIFFICULTIES TOO.
 - B. EVEN THOUGH YOU MAY BE FILLED WITH JOY AT A HOMECOMING, YOU CAN HAVE OTHER FEELINGS TOO.
 - C. SOMETIMES KIDS CAN FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE AT A HOMECOMING, AND NOT SURE OF WHAT THEY SHOULD DO.
 - D. EVERYONE HAS DIFFERENT FEELINGS AND NEEDS AT A HOMECOMING, AND ALTHOUGH KIDS ARE IMPORTANT, THEY DO NOT ALWAYS FEEL LIKE THEY GET ENOUGH ATTENTION.
 - E. EVEN WHEN PEOPLE ARE HAPPY, THEY CAN STILL HAVE MISUNDERSTANDINGS AND ARGUMENTS.

Answers: 1=D, 2=E, 3=C, 4=A, 5=B