1 □***ork in small groups.***
□***iscuss the questions.***

3 □***ead the article again.***
□***hich children are usually***□

2 □***ead the article quickly.*** □***hich paragraph (□-□) mentions***□

1 Do you think it's better to be the older or the younger sister or brother in a family with two children? Why?
2 Does a child's position in the family have an infl uence on his / her personality?
a the youngest children? ..... ☐
b the children who have to look after their younger brothers and sisters? ..... ☐
c Tom Hughes? ..... ☐
d the only children? ..... ☐
e the most competitive children? ..... ☐
1 independent and sociable?
2 charming and affectionate?
3 □uite self-confi dent and ambitious?
4 very organised and responsible?

W H AT **(1)** In his book about the family□s infl uence on a personality the British psychologist Tom □ughes tells that our position in the family is the strongest factor that infl uences our personality. **(2)** On his opinion, the oldest children get maximum attention from their parents, and the result is that they're usually quite self-confi dent people. They make good leaders. For example, the famous Prime Minister □inston Churchill was a fi rstborn child. The oldest children are often ambitious. They□re more likely to go to university than their brothers or sisters. They often get the top □obs, too. They are also responsible people, because

they often have to look after their younger brothers or sisters. The downside of this is that sometimes this means

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that when they□re older they worry a lot about things. They can also be quite bossy and even aggressive, especially when they don□t get what they want.

(3) The middle children are usually independent and competitive. It□s because they have to fi ght with their brothers and sisters for their parents□ attention. And they□re usually sociable, they like being with people, probably because they have always had other children to play with. □owever, on the negative side, the middle children are often □ealous of their brothers and sisters and they can be moody.

(4) If a child is the youngest in the family, he or she will probably be very charming, affectionate and quite relaxed. On the other hand, the quite la□y. This is because they always have their older brothers and sisters to help them. And they can be quite manipulative — they use their charm to get what they want.

(5) The only children in the family don□t have to share with anyone — so they're often spoilt by their parents and their grandparents. As a result, they can be quite selfi sh. They think of themselves more than of other people. □n the positive side, the only children are usually very organised and responsible, and they can be very imaginative, too.