Fill in the blanks with words from the box. There are TWO words you will not need.

A stepfamily, or blended family, is a _______________ with at least one child from a _______________ relationship who lives with them all the time or some of the time.

These families often have an image problem. In old fairy tales stepmothers are wicked and stepsisters are _____________. When you see a stepfamily in one of your favourite TV soap operas they usually have _______________ with other family members. That is why the phrase “blended family” is often used instead of stepfamily.

Family life has faced many _______________ over the past half century. Traditional _______________ families – mother, father and two children – are a lot less _______________ today. About 40% of all marriages end in _______________.

Today, over 2.5 million children in the UK live in stepfamilies. Most of them start when the birth parents _______________ up and find new partners.

Being part of a stepfamily can really be a _______________ for children. An important factor is the way the birth parents deal with the end of their _______________. They need to be careful not to talk too much about their ex-partner or his/her faults. Children sometimes also feel _______________ about liking their stepparent too much, because they may think that they are betraying their birth parent.

Although, while it may be hard at first, being in a stepfamily can provide all members with a new life and a feeling that they have _______________ something worthwhile.
A stepfamily, or blended family, is a couple with at least one child from a previous relationship who lives with them all the time or some of the time.

These families often have an image problem. In old fairy tales stepmothers are wicked and stepsisters are bullies. When you see a stepfamily in one of your favourite TV soap operas they usually have arguments with other family members. That is why the phrase “blended family” is often used instead of stepfamily.

Family life has faced many challenges over the past half century. Traditional nuclear families – mother, father and two children – are a lot less common today. About 40% of all marriages end in divorce.

Today, over 2.5 million children in the UK live in stepfamilies. Most of them start when the birth parents break up and find new partners.

Being part of a stepfamily can really be a challenge for children. An important factor is the way the birth parents deal with the end of their relationship. They need to be careful not to talk too much about their ex-partner or his/her faults. Children sometimes also feel guilty about liking their stepparent too much, because they may think that they are betraying their birth parent.

Although, while it may be hard at first, being in a stepfamily can provide all members with a new life and a feeling that they have achieved something worthwhile.