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 challenge 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 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.