

Name:

## Sibling rivalry: Is this your story?



A lot of who we are begins at home, in our family. You might be the serious oldest child. You could be the only girl. Or you might be the baby of the family, even when you are six feet tall! These roles can carry over into life outside the family.

We'll be reading a story, "Blackmail," about brothers who really don't get along. One name for this is **sibling rivalry**. Siblings can be brothers or sisters. Often it is two brothers who are rivals. People who work with families say that brothers close in age are often **rivals**.

The quiz on the next page is supposed to be funny, but it can make you think about you and your siblings.

## Quiz for fun about Sibling rivalry

Are you like NFL brothers Eli and Peyton Manning who got tough from growing up fighting each other? Or are you more like tennis superstars Venus and Serena Williams who are best friends off the court?

1. When people look at baby pictures for your family, they sometimes have trouble telling you and your brother or sister apart. **What do you say?**
    - a) I'm the cute one.
    - b) It's fun how much alike we look.
    - c) He/she's the funny-looking one.
    - d) No one had this problem—I'm an only child!
  2. When you were little, your brother or sister had swim lessons while you stayed home. **What did you do?**
    - a) Played with all of his or her toys.
    - b) Enjoyed the time to myself.
    - c) Broke the head off his/her favorite toy.
    - d) I always enjoyed time to myself because I'm an only child.
  3. Your brother/sister always brings home great math grades. **What do you do?**
    - a) Tell everyone, "I'm better at science."
    - b) Ask him/her for help.
    - c) Tell your mother he/she cheats.
    - d) I'm an only child so this is not my problem.
  4. Your brother/sister isn't that athletic. **What do you say when you're playing on a team together?**
    - a) Reject.
    - b) This is fun.
    - c) I don't know you.
    - d) As an only child, I don't have to worry about this.
  5. Your brother/sister skips doing chores. You end up doing both jobs. Your mom thanks you for helping out. **What do you say to your brother/sister?**
    - a) You always get away with everything.
    - b) Next time you can help me.
    - c) I'm telling Dad.
    - d) I'm an only child so I only do *my* chores.
- Count up your a) and c) answers: \_\_\_\_\_
- 0 or 1: Venus and Serena! (or you're an only child)
- 2 or 3: It's not a lovefest all the time.
- 4 or 5: Eli and Peyton!

## Quiz for fun about Sibling rivalry, continued

What are some reasons why siblings undermine each other or fight?

Reason #1:



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Reason #2:



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