

**Name:**

## Day One

# Keeping a Family Together

### Part 1: Silent read

➔ Can older teens make a family after a parent dies? Read about Teena's story. Read silently.

Teena remembers growing up. "My mother came to America when I was ten. She left my brothers, sister, and me in Jamaica with our aunt. When I was in high school, my mother sent for the oldest children. It was great coming to live with her. My mother always worked several jobs. She saved enough to buy a house in Boston."

"Sadly, my mother died when I was 19. Two of us were still in high school in Boston. My youngest brother was in Jamaica. So could we manage all the business of being a family without our mother? Yes!"

"I'm grown now and have my own family. It was not easy back then. My youngest brother came from Jamaica to live with us. But everyone except my brother Kelvin graduated from college. We got jobs and used the money our mother had saved to live within our means. Sometimes it was real hard. We all had the same goal, however. Our dream was to stay together and make our mother proud. We would focus on how pleased our mother would be. We were able to stay together as a family until my sister was 21."

Some families from the islands, Africa, and Asia have to split up to make a better life in America. They may not ask for help from outsiders. They feel better taking care of each other. It is great when it works out well.



# Day One

// one minute

## Keeping a Family Together

### Part 2: First timed read

WPM \_\_\_\_\_

Teena remembers growing up. “My mother came to America when I was ten. She left my brothers, sister, and me in Jamaica with our aunt. When I was in high school, my mother sent for the oldest children. It was great coming to live with her. My mother always worked several jobs. She saved enough to buy a house in Boston.” 61

“Sadly, my mother died when I was 19. Two of us were still in high school in Boston. 79

My youngest brother was in Jamaica. So could we manage all the business of being a 95

family without our mother? Yes!” 100

“I’m grown now and have my own family. It was not easy back then. My youngest 116

brother came from Jamaica to live with us. But everyone except my brother Kelvin 130

graduated from college. We got jobs and used the money our mother had saved to live 146

within our means. Sometimes it was real hard. We all had the same goal, however. Our 162

dream was to stay together and make our mother proud. We would focus on how pleased 178

our mother would be. We were able to stay together as a family until my sister was 21.” 196

Some families from the islands, Africa, and Asia have to split up to make a better life in 214

America. They may not ask for help from outsiders. They feel better taking care of each 230

other. It is great when it works out well. 239

### Part 3: Comprehension and discussion

How did Teena and her brothers and sister keep from being split up?

---



---

What was the goal for Teena and her brothers and sister?

---



---

## Day One

# Keeping a Family Together

### Part 4: Phrase-cued reading

- Read the passage **out loud** in phrases to your partner.
- Pause at each / mark for a phrase.
- Also pause at each // mark that shows the end of a sentence.

Teena remembers growing up. // “My mother came to America / when I was ten. // She left my brothers, / sister, / and me in Jamaica / with our aunt. // When I was in high school, / my mother sent for the oldest children. // It was great coming to live with her. // My mother always worked several jobs. // She saved enough to buy a house in Boston.” //

“Sadly, / my mother died / when I was 19. // Two of us were still in high school in Boston. // My youngest brother was in Jamaica. // So could we manage all the business of being a family / without our mother? // Yes!” //

“I’m grown now / and have my own family. // It was not easy back then. // My youngest brother came from Jamaica / to live with us. // But everyone except my brother Kelvin / graduated from college. // We got jobs / and used the money our mother had saved / to live within our means. // Sometimes it was real hard. // We all had the same goal, / however. // Our dream was to stay together / and make our mother proud. // We would focus on / how pleased our mother would be. // We were able to stay together as a family / until my sister was 21.” //

Some families from the islands, / Africa, / and Asia / have to split up to make a better life in America. // They may not ask for help from outsiders. // They feel better taking care of each other. // It is great when it works out well. //

I read the passage in phrases out loud to my partner.