

## Intermediate – Identify the Cause of an Argument

A. Maisy and her sister Carla share a bedroom, but they argue all the time!

**Maisy:** Carla leaves her clothes, books, and makeup all over the bedroom and she never tidies them away. I always have to tidy the room because Carla never does it. I always have to put Carla's things away because there isn't any space. Carla is always busy and a bit of a slob.

**Carla:** When Maisy tidies up, she puts my things away, and I can't find them. I think she hides my things because she's jealous. I've got a part-time job, and I like to buy books, makeup and earrings with the money I earn. She tidies up and vacuums on Saturdays. I work on Saturdays, and when I come home, I can't find anything!

**What do you think the cause of the problem is?**

B. Matt's parents are divorced. He lives with his mom, and doesn't always like visiting his dad.

**Matt:** Dad likes to fix old computers and puts the pieces in the living room and dining room. They're all over the floor and on the table. When I want to watch TV or do my homework, there's nowhere to sit, so I just go up to my room. Dad's house isn't very clean either, not like mom's house!

**Matt's dad:** Matt is very moody when he visits. He never sits and chats or watches TV with me. As soon as he comes at the weekend, he goes upstairs and shuts himself in his room. I'd prefer to work with my computer parts in the garage, but when Matt comes I want to spend time with him, so I bring my work into the house.

**What do you think the cause of the problem is?**

C. Grant and Robbie don't talk to each other anymore.

**Grant:** Robbie never wants to meet at the park anymore. Every time I ask him, he says he's got football practice, and then he has to do homework. Now, I play football with some other boys, but they're not very good. And they're not fun like Robbie.

**Robbie:** Grant only asks me to go down to the park on Mondays and Wednesdays. I can't go on those days because I play football with a team and they train those days. Grant never asks me to do anything on other days. I think he only likes me because I'm good at football.

**What do you think the cause of the problem is?**

### Reflection Point

Sometimes, we don't understand a problem because we only see one point of view. When you can see the different points of view, it's easier to find a solution.