

## 2018 Section B Q5

### **(a) Identify and explain the rights of children in society today.**

The right to protection from abuse and neglect. The child's parents should protect them, care for them and look after them.

The right to have physical needs met. This includes food, shelter and clothing for a basic standard of living.

The right to have a name and to be granted nationality e.g. to have a birth certificate and a passport for their country.

The right to an education e.g. to go to school and to learn.

### **(b) Discuss the possible causes of conflict between adolescents and adults. Suggest strategies for resolving this conflict.**

#### Causes of conflict:

- 1) Friends: parents might not be happy with the group of people their child is hanging out with. The parents may feel that the group of friends are a bad influence on their children and this may cause conflict.
- 2) Social Media: conflict may arise from the amount of time a teenager spends on social media if the parents think that they are spending too much time on the internet.
- 3) Schoolwork: there may be conflict regarding schoolwork and study if the parents think that the child is doing too much or not enough homework or study.

#### Strategies for resolving conflict:

- 1) Avoid angry confrontations as someone may end up saying something hurtful that they do not truly mean. It is best to wait until both sides are calm.
- 2) Show empathy. It is important that both parties try to see the situation from the other side too.

- 3) If a decision cannot be reached, a compromise may have to be reached in order to prevent future conflict.

**(c) Outline the protection available for families under the Family Law (Maintenance of Spouses and Children) Act, 1976.**

If a relationship breaks down, maintenance must be paid to a dependent spouse if they do not have the financial resources to support themselves. Maintenance is paid to the parent who has custody of the children even if both parents are still sharing the same house. If a maintenance agreement can't be reached, the couple will have to go to court and the judge will decide the terms of the agreement. An Attachment of Earnings order can be put in place if a spouse refuses to pay the maintenance. This is when money is taken directly from their wages and paid to the other spouse.