

5 Mending hearts



Level:



Let's think!

1. What do you think of your mum?
2. What did your mum do that impressed you the most?

PLAYLIST



READ ALONG



In a world where magical abilities exist, there lived Mia and her daughter Lydia. They possessed a unique power—the ability to manipulate time, granting them the extraordinary abilities to pause, rewind, and fast-forward moments in their lives.



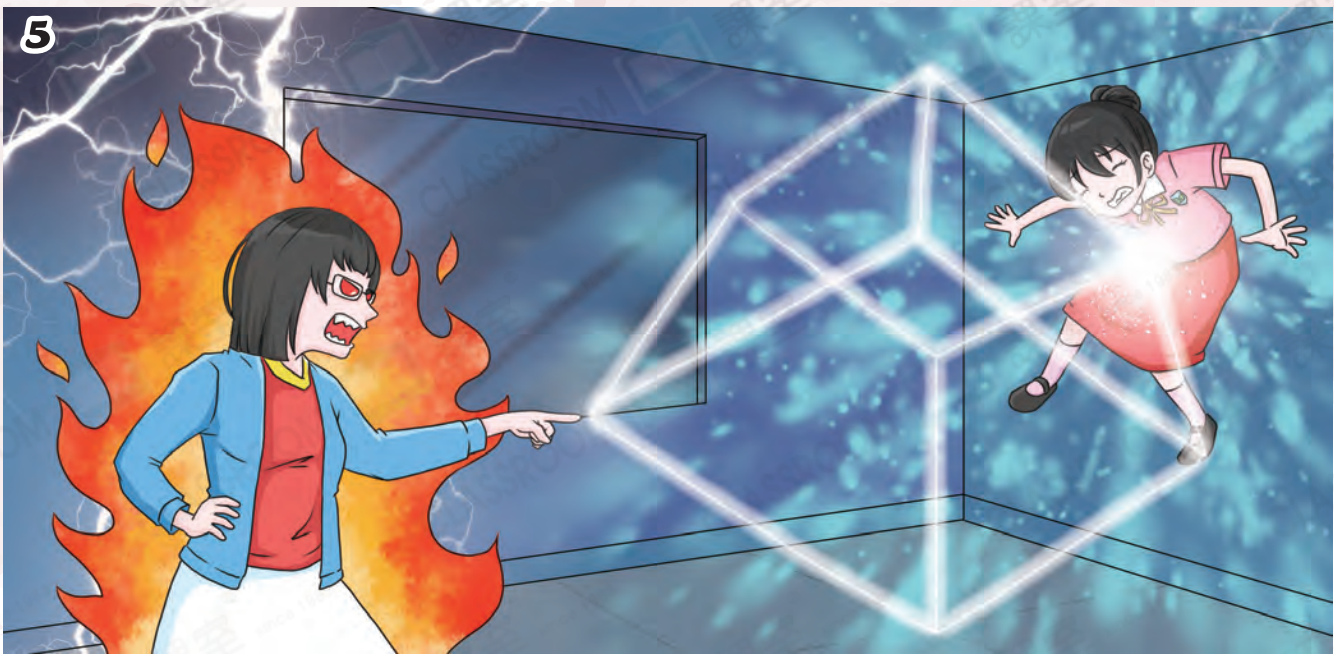
As Lydia grew older, she discovered that this power was both a gift and a burden. While it protected her from harm and heartbreak, it also shielded her from the natural consequences and experiences that shape a person.



At school, Lydia began to abuse her time-manipulation abilities. She didn't put any effort into preparing for exams, knowing she could always retake them. When she grew bored, she fast-forwarded through lessons, not bothering to listen to her teachers. She believed that she could revisit the material whenever she wished.



She even paused time to play pranks on others. She gradually became the most hated person in the school.



Mia, Lydia's mother, watched with dismay as her daughter became more and more arrogant. Recognising the negative impact it was having on Lydia, Mia knew she had to intervene. She locked Lydia's time-control power, not allowing her to use it. This caused a rift between them, and Lydia stopped talking to her mother.



Without her time-manipulation abilities, Lydia was forced to face the consequences of her actions and confront her shortcomings. She realised that she needed to study and put in genuine effort to improve her grades. Lydia began to respect her teachers and classmates, who offered their help and guidance. She also learnt the value of helping others and started to grow as a person.



As the term came to an end, Lydia managed to pass all her subjects through her own hard work and dedication. She felt a great sense of joy and accomplishment, knowing that she had achieved this without relying on her superpower. It was the happiest moment in her life, and she felt truly grateful that her mother had given her the chance to experience a normal life.



And then, in an unexpected turn of events, a surge of power coursed through Lydia's body. Her time-control abilities were back! However, this time, Lydia became wiser and promised her mother to use her power only for the benefits of others. Since then, the mother and daughter have grown closer than ever before.

~380 words

Looking into Grammar

We use **comparative adjectives** to compare two people or things. We put **than** after the adjective.

✓ Since then, the mother and daughter have grown **closer than** ever before.

We use **superlative adjectives** to compare three or more people or things. We put **the** before the adjective.

✓ She gradually became **the most hated** person in the school.

? Circle all comparative and superlative adjectives in the text.

Read the text and answer questions 1–10. For multiple-choice questions, choose the best answer and blacken ONE circle only. (18 marks)

1. Read panels 1–2. Decide whether the following statements are True (T), False (F) or Not Given (NG).

	T	F	NG
(i) Mia and Lydia are able to go forward and backward in time.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
(ii) Lydia needed lots of training to use her power.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
(iii) The superpower only has good impacts on Lydia.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
(iv) Lydia's ability becomes stronger as she grows older.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

2. Which meaning of 'abuse' is closest to the meaning used in panel 3?

2 What did Lydia do at school?

A. to use so much of something that it harms your health
e.g. Maria abused drugs and ended up in the hospital.

B. to treat a person in a cruel or violent way
e.g. Ken abused his wife and was arrested by the police.

C. to make rude comments to somebody
e.g. The bully abused her classmates with hurtful insults.

D. to use something in a harmful way
e.g. Ricky abused his position at the restaurant to get free meals.

A B C D

3. Based on panels 3–4, complete the summary by writing ONE word to fill in each blank. Note that the suitable word may not appear in the text. Make sure your answers are grammatically correct.

Lydia began to misuse her power at school. She did not (i) _____ for exams because she could always take them (ii) _____. Sometimes, she (iii) _____ up the passage of time during lessons. She even used her abilities to (iv) _____ others, making her the most unpopular person in the class.

4. How did Mia feel when Lydia became 'arrogant' (panel 5)?

4 Which word in panel 5 describes Mia's emotion?

- A. angry and bitter
- B. indifferent and unconcerned
- C. unhappy and disappointed
- D. stressed and nervous

A B C D

5. Why did Mia lock Lydia's time-control power?

- A. to protect Lydia from harm
- B. to teach Lydia a lesson
- C. to help Lydia make friends
- D. to improve Lydia's grades

A B C D

6. After losing her superpower, Lydia _____.

- A. behaved even worse
- B. relied on others to complete schoolwork
- C. started working hard and respecting others
- D. did worse and worse in school

A B C D

7. Look for words in the text to match the following definitions.

- (i) _____ (panel 5) (*n.*) a serious break in a relationship
- (ii) _____ (panel 6) (*adj.*) real and sincere
- (iii) _____ (panel 7) (*n.*) the effort being put into doing something because it is important



8. Which meaning of 'benefits' is closest to the meaning used in panel 8?

- A. helpful or good effects
e.g. The exercise program has numerous health benefits.
- B. money that you receive as a result of an illness or injury
e.g. Mark received cash benefits after his car accident.
- C. things that a worker receives from their company in addition to the money they earn
e.g. Stan's company provides him with attractive benefits, like flexible working hours.
- D. events organised to raise money
e.g. They organised charity benefits to raise funds for cancer research.

A B C D

9. Number the following events in chronological order. Write 1–4 in the boxes provided.

There was a disagreement between Mia and Lydia.

Lydia discovered her abilities and began to misuse them.

Lydia promised to use her superpower for good.

Lydia worked hard and achieved success without her superpower.

10. What is the purpose of this graphic novel?

- I. to showcase the power of time manipulation
 - II. to explore the advantages of using superpower
 - III. to highlight the importance of hard work and dedication
 - IV. to depict the relationship between mother and daughter
- A. I and II
 - B. III and IV
 - C. I and III
 - D. II and IV

A B C D

Vocabulary

GLOSSARY



A. Complete the emails below with the given words. Make sure your answers are grammatically correct.

Adjective: unique

Noun: dismay rift shortcoming

Verb: confront intervene promise respect shape shield

← → ↻ ✉ **Dealing with a teen coming home late** ★

To: AuntEmma@magazine.com **From:** Sadmum@home.com

Subject: Advice needed: How to deal with son coming home late?

Dear Aunt Emma,

Lately, my 15-year-old son has been coming home later and later. I tried to (1) _____ him about this, but he talked back at me very rudely. We ended up shouting at each other. This has caused a (2) _____ between us, and we have stopped talking to each other. I am filled with (3) _____ over this situation.

I'm at a loss for what to do. Could you please give me some suggestions?

Thanks,
Sad Mum

💡 **To:** Sadmum@home.com **From:** AuntEmma@magazine.com

Subject: Re: Advice needed: How to deal with son coming home late?

Dear Sad Mum,

I am sorry to hear your story. Every family is (4) _____. I hope that I can render you some help.

To address this issue, try to have a calm and friendly conversation with your son to understand why he has been coming home late. However, you still need to be firm and let him know that he should (5) _____ your wishes. If this does not work, get your husband to (6) _____ so that your son is clear about the rules. Get him to (7) _____ you that he will be home by a certain time.

I understand that as a parent, you want to have your son home early to (8) _____ him from danger, but he is not a little boy anymore. There will be times when he wants to have a night out with his friends. These social activities help (9) _____ teens into responsible adults. They give them the chances to recognise their (10) _____, so that they can overcome their faults.

Regards,
Aunt Emma

B. Complete the diagram below with given words or phrases. Make sure your answers are grammatically correct.

Actions and their possible results

apologise

deadline

gossip

responsibility

self-confidence

strained

trustworthy

verbal abuse

(1) spreading _____



- leads to conflicts with your friends
- makes you less (2) _____

procrastination



- makes you feel more (3) _____ because tasks are not completed until the last moment
- makes you more likely to miss (4) _____

(5) _____ sincerely when you do something wrong



- restores trust
- shows that you take (6) _____ for your actions

(7) _____



- destroys the victim's (8) _____
- can lead to depression

Writing

Which kind of superpower do you want to possess the most?

If everyone were allowed to choose one magical ability, what ability would you most want to have?

Write a blog entry in about 180 words.