

## Unit 2 &gt;&gt;&gt; Deal with peer pressure

## A Myriam's story

*Using smart phones in school is a big problem; you don't concentrate on what you're doing. You use phones in class when you should be listening to the lesson. In any case, they're too expensive for teenagers and they're not necessary.*

*I got the latest smart phone for my birthday. Look what it can do; it's so cool. How come you've still got that old phone? Can't you get a new one? It's great when the lesson's boring; you can just surf the internet or text when the teacher isn't looking!*

*How can I call someone if I have a problem or check my emails? I really need a new phone. Everyone in my class has got one. I'm sure I'll do my homework better if I have instant internet access.*

*The school allows you to make important phone calls. Smart phones are expensive and unnecessary, we can't afford one at the moment. Perhaps when you're older you can get one. You can use my laptop or the tablet for social networking when you're at home. You used to say mobile phones weren't that important. Why did you change your mind?*

## B Edward's story

*I never really do my homework; it's a waste of time. I just copy work from other people or I copy it off the internet. Why don't you do that? Then we can spend more time playing online computer games. Worry about school work later; it's not that important now.*

*Work hard now and at the end of the year your exams will be easier. It's a good idea to do what your teachers ask. They really appreciate it. You've always had brilliant reports. I'm proud of you!*

*We give homework for a reason; everything you do counts towards your future. Students should make an effort throughout the year.*

*My teacher has asked to see my parents because my grades are going down. My teacher said she was surprised because I've always been such a good student.*

## C Olivia's story

*My mum lets me stay out until really late. She doesn't mind where I go. Don't tell your mum where we're going. She doesn't have to know. Say you're staying at my house.*

*I think you're still a bit young to go out so late and I really don't like the idea of you going to parties. I want to know where you are when you go out. What if something happens? The city at night is a dangerous place.*

*I'd like to go out but I don't want to upset my mum. She's very strict. But I want to have a bit more freedom like my friend Tammy and her older sister.*

*Tammy's fun. You'll probably enjoy going out with her. She has a lot of older friends because she has an older sister. Although one evening her older sister left us on our own and we had to get home alone. I was really scared. I wouldn't want to do that again.*

## REFLECTION POINT



It's important to understand the influence of peer pressure on your decisions. Being aware of peer pressure and its consequences will help you make decisions that are right for you.