

Part 2

Complete the following texts by filling the gaps with ONE word only.

Eldest child

adapted from "Does your place in the family mould you for ever?" in "Daily Mail"

The first-born is an only child until the second child comes (1)
- when they go from (2) the centre of attention to sharing
the care (3) parents. This 'dethronement' may be extremely
traumatic and forever shape the first-born's outlook (4)
life. They may spend the rest of their lives striving (5)
regain their parents' approval. They could even unconsciously feel
their parents had (6) child (7) somehow they
weren't good (8) (9) may lead to feelings of
inadequacy and also contributes to resentment of subsequent siblings.
The first-born is often the least warm (10) frequently the
most hostile to their brothers and sisters.

First-born children always have novice parents, (11)
they grow up in (12) early atmosphere of greater parental
anxiety, (13) may leave the child anxious. New parents'
ambitions for (14) sons and daughters often get
channelled most into the first-born. But (15) other
offspring arrive, they become (16) relaxed about their
aspirations for their children. This may explain why first-borns are
thought to be over-represented (17) ambitious achievers.
First-borns are significantly more often found as world political
leaders than (18) other birth order position.