Quarrels

Quarrel – a disagreement or argument.

Let’s get started: When you were a child, did you quarrel with other kids or with family? Explain.

Story:

Jay sends an email to Kay, asking for a ride to the airport on the next day in the morning very early. Kay doesn’t check her email until the late evening. She can’t give the ride. But, it’s very late to call Jay. So, Kay sends an email to Jay and tells him that she can’t do it.

The next day, Jay waits for Kay to pick him up. She never shows up. Jay has to take a taxi to the airport and is very angry at Kay. When he arrives at his destination the next day, he finds Kay’s email. Jay is still very angry and sends Kay a note saying, “Don’t ever call or write me again!”

Now, Kay is angry and hurt. She tries to call Jay, she sends emails and she even visits his house. But, Jay refuses to talk to her in any way. After a few weeks, Kay realizes that she has lost a friend. Kay is sad.

Discuss in pairs or groups of three.

What do you think about this quarrel? Has anything like this ever happened to you? Explain.

If Kay asked you for advice, what would you say?

If Jay asked you for advice, what would you say?

In your native culture, do people quarrel . . . .

. . . with words or without words?

. . . . . . . in a friendly way or unfriendly way?

. . . . . . . . often, or not often?

What do adults quarrel about? In your experience, are most quarrels about big things or small things?

In your experience, how do you resolve quarrels? Can you make peace? Why or why not?
What do children quarrel about? Do they usually quarrel . . .
. . . about big things or small things?
. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . for a short time or a long time?

If you see children quarreling, do you try to stop them? Why or why not? If yes, what would you do?

Is it possible to “win” or “lose” in a quarrel? Explain.

We have a saying, “Let’s agree to disagree.” Sometimes you have to admit that you’re going to disagree and can still be friends. Do you have such a saying in your native culture? Explain.

Give examples of topics where you have to “agree to disagree”:
. . . . at home
. . . . . . at school
. . . . . . . . at work
. . . . . . . . . . with extended family
. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . with friends

How can quarrels between nations be resolved?

Are there good and bad ways to quarrel? Explain.

Is it possible to avoid all quarrels? Why or why not?

Sometimes people say, “I can’t tell truth, because it will cause a quarrel!” For example, your friend says, “Do I look ok?” Or your spouse says, “How are you?” when you’re mad at them.

Do you sometimes tell the truth even though you know it will cause a quarrel? Why or why not? Give examples.