

Age

Date of birth ___/___/19 ..
Age (years). (months)

Reading

Read through these expressions relating to how old we are and what age does to us.

1900

a new-born baby, 10 lbs. 3 ozs. at birth
ten months old
nearly eighteen months old
a toddler
four next birthday
coming up to school age
at infants' school
a schoolgirl

1910

all those in the 9-11 **age group**
he had a happy **childhood**
he's a nice kid
a teenager
in his youth
the agonies of **adolescence**
still a **minor**, legally speaking
a juvenile delinquent
congratulations on your **coming of age**

1920

you have to be **over 21**
Miss June Hoskins, **aged 22**, of 35 Stanfield Road
in his mid-twenties
in his prime
at the age of 26 she got married
by the age of 26 she had lived in five different countries
an adult
a grown-up

1930

don't be so **childish**
he's turned thirty
thirtyish
not a **youngster** any more
not as young as she was
36 years of age
approaching middle-age
the Under 40s Social Club

1940

on the wrong side of forty
beginning to **look his age**
an ageing playboy
beginning to feel her age
I prefer **mature** people

she's still got her **girlish** sense of humour
in his late forties
 she's **older than she looks**

1950

still playing his **schoolboy** tricks
in her early fifties
he's aged a lot lately
 he's **getting on (in years)**
 one of the **older generation**
I'm twice your age, young man!
 the same **age** as her husband
heading for retirement

1960

he's over the hill *
 Sunday Excursion for the **Over 60s**
growing old gracefully
a pensioner (an old age pensioner, OAP)
 he's **coming up to seventy**
 you're **old enough to know better**
 you're **as old** as you feel
an elderly lady

1970

a septuagenarian
 Help the Aged
 she's **still going strong**
in her seventy-fifth year
 his **elder** brother's death
her eldest sister's death
 becoming **senile**
old age comes to all of us

1980

his eightieth birthday
an octogenarian
 he's **as old as the hills***
 in her **second childhood**
he's got one foot in the grave*
 he'll soon **be pushing up the daisies***
 she's **kicked the bucket***
 she's **passed away / on**

Practice

Discuss or write the answers to these questions.

- 1 How has your relationship with your parents and other members of your family changed as you have grown older?
- 2 At which age would you most like to stop the world for ten years so you could enjoy it? Has that age passed or is it still to come?
- 3 Some people say there are a lot of similarities between childhood and old age. Do you agree?
- 4 Do you think young people are growing up faster these days? If so, give examples.
- 5 Do you agree or partly agree with the saying '**Life begins at forty**'?

