Dear Ruby

Holly and Olivia have found an interesting problem in the 'agony aunt' pages of their favourite magazine.

JUST ASK RUBY!



Dear Ruby,

I'm writing to you because I don't know what to do. Last week I had a big fight with one of my best friends. Before the fight, we spent all our free time together. But now she has made friends with another girl and they're having a lot of fun. I know this because she posts photos of the two of them on the social network site we use. She acts like she's having a much better time without me! Whenever I see these photos, it really hurts my feelings.

Can you please help? I would really like to hear your advice.

Lauren

Across cultures

In Britain, the advice pages of teen magazines are often very popular. People write to an **agony aunt** for help with their problems. What kind of agony aunts are there in your country?

Dear Lauren,

I'm sorry you're feeling so upset. I understand how hard it is to share a friend; it was the same with me when I was young. As a first step, my advice is to be self-critical: Are you overreacting? Maybe the situation isn't as serious as you think.

The next step is to talk to your friend in a friendly way and tell her how you feel. Why don't you invite her to your house after school? Or have you tried texting her? Things usually get better as soon as you talk. Another tip: Please stop looking at your social network site until you've talked to her. The photos only make you feel worse!

I hope you two can be friends again very soon.

Ruby

Understanding the problem → WB 48/4

Answer these questions about Lauren's letter and Ruby's reply.

- 1. Why is Lauren writing to Ruby?
- 2. How does Lauren know about her friend's new friend?
- 3. When does Lauren feel really bad?
- 4. Compare how her friend acted before the fight and after (in Lauren's opinion).

UNIT 4 - Stay in touch

Asking for and giving advice

p.77/4 The right vocabulary for advice

In the letters, you see some phrases with "advice vocabulary" in green.

Match these phrases to the three categories:

(Die Anzahl der Punkte zeigt dir schon, wie viele "phrases" du in jeder Kategorie brauchst.)

Asking for advice	Giving advice	Showing understanding
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