

# A to Z English

## A to Z Am I The Jerk 08: Remembering Mom

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### Full Transcript

**00:00:00** Jack

Welcome to the A-Z English podcast. Today's episode is am I the jerk and this is an episode where we read a story from a person on the Internet and then we decide whether we think that person is a jerk or not. So.

**00:00:20** Jack

Before we start today's episode, we have to define some vocabulary, and today's vocabulary is step, Sister step, brother or step sibling.

**00:00:33** Jack

So social yet last time in the episode before the last am I the jerk episode.

**00:00:39** Jack

We define stepchild.

**00:00:42** Jack

What is a step sibling?

**00:00:46** Xochitl

A step sibling is a brother or sister you acquire from either of your parents getting remarried.

**00:00:54** Xochitl

So if my if I was younger honestly, if I was still a kid.

**00:01:00** Xochitl

UM and my.

**00:01:01** Xochitl

Parents got a divorce.

**00:01:02** Xochitl

Knock on wood and one of them remarried to someone who also had kids, that persons.

**00:01:10** Xochitl

Son or daughter would become my step sibling.

**00:01:13**Jack

Right, so the daughter would be your sister.

**00:01:15**Jack

But she's not your blood sister.

**00:01:17**Jack

You're not related to her.

**00:01:19**Jack

She's your step sister or step brother would be a step brother.

**00:01:24**Jack

And I'm I'm.

**00:01:25**Jack

Assuming it's, we call it that because it's like one step away from being related.

**00:01:32**Jack

It's like they're.

**00:01:33**Jack

They're not blood relations, but now that the parents are.

**00:01:37**Jack

They are living together like a brother and sister would.

**00:01:42**Jack

Same house the parents in the house would be the stepfather and mom or stepmother and father.

**00:01:49**Jack

But yeah, the blood relation is not there.

**00:01:53**Jack

So that's this story.

**00:01:55**Jack

And this one is am I the jerk?

**00:01:57**Jack

For making a family memory book with just my full siblings and not including my step sister or half siblings.

**00:02:09**Jack

So this is interesting. And did we define half sibling 1/2 sibling would be.

**00:02:16**Xochitl

Someone who you share the same mother or father but you don't share both parents.

**00:02:23**Xochitl

So it's like if your father got remarried and had another kid with somebody else.

**00:02:23**Jack

Right.

**00:02:30**Xochitl

That person is your half sibling.

**00:02:31**Xochitl

Or if your mother gets remarried and has another kid with someone else, that person is also.

**00:02:35**Xochitl

Your half sibling.

**00:02:36**Xochitl

Your full sibling has both parents and your half sibling.

**00:02:40**Xochitl

As the name suggests, only one out of two parents, you.

**00:02:43**Jack

Right.

**00:02:44**Jack

There you go.

**00:02:44**Jack

So we got half siblings and step siblings, so half siblings, you're half half of your DNA is the same as your brother and sister.

**00:02:55**Jack

Step sister.

**00:02:56**Jack

You share no DNA at all.

**00:02:58**Xochitl

Yes, it will be.

**00:03:00**Jack

OK, so here's the situation.

**00:03:02**Jack

My mom and dad had me 17 year old male, my sister, 14 year old female and brother, 13 year old male together.

**00:03:12**Jack

Mom died eight years ago.

**00:03:14**Jack

Dad remarried six years ago, and it was not easy for the three of us.

**00:03:20**Jack

Dad's wife Rose has a daughter who's 11 now.

**00:03:24**Jack

They also have a four and a 2 year old together.

**00:03:28**Jack

About a week after the wedding.

**00:03:30**Jack

My sibling snuck into my room in the middle of the night, sad about Dad being married and the changes that had happened.

**00:03:39**Jack

They asked if I felt like mom.

**00:03:41**Jack

Mom really is gone now.

**00:03:43**Jack

And I said, yeah.

**00:03:45**Jack

I asked them if they'd like us to have something for just for us, no new family involved, where we could remember mom and talk about that stuff.

**00:03:55**Jack

They said yes.

**00:03:56**Jack

So I raised the money to buy a pretty nice scrapbook.

**00:04:00**Jack

And about once a month, my siblings would sneak into my room at night and we'd put photos in and write memories we had, and I'd share the stories I remembered about Mom since, as the oldest, I remembered her best and remembered the stories about her.

**00:04:16**Jack

We never added.

**00:04:17**Jack

Rows our step sister or half siblings when they were born.

**00:04:21**Jack

We also didn't.

**00:04:22**Jack

Talk about it to Dad or anyone else.

**00:04:24**Jack

I knew he wouldn't love that we were doing it.

**00:04:27**Jack

I kept it hidden in my room 3 weeks ago, Rose went through my stuff and found it.

**00:04:33**Jack

She claimed she was cleaning up my room, but I know she was snooping.

**00:04:37**Jack

Because I had it hidden in a place that.

**00:04:39**Jack

She wouldn't be clean.

**00:04:41**Jack

She went through it, showed my dad, and they sat, my siblings and me down and told us that was a really unfair thing to have in the house and how mean it was to do something like that without all the siblings involved.

**00:04:57**Jack

My brother said it was just for the three of us real siblings.

**00:05:00**Jack

Dad told him that that was a bad attitude and and what our step sister and half siblings.

**00:05:07**Jack

If not real siblings, sorry that one the grammar is weird.

**00:05:13**Jack

My sister said it would always be different, Rose said.

**00:05:16**Jack

We should never have made something in the House, the home we all shared when it excluded three of our siblings and would hurt feelings, she said.

**00:05:25**Jack

We should have done something to bring us all together.

**00:05:28**Jack

My sister said that wasn't what she wanted.

**00:05:31**Jack

My dad sent them out of the room and he and Rose told me I never should have gone along with it and how much it hurt my step sister when she saw the book and heard what we'd been doing, Rose said.

**00:05:43**Jack

It hurt her too.

**00:05:44**Jack

Then she tried to make us she she tried to make us all one family, and we made sure never to close that divide in the.

**00:05:51**Jack

Last six years.

**00:05:53**Jack

Dad told me he expected better from me.

**00:05:56**Jack

Am I the jerk?

**00:06:02**Xochitl

I've never been in this situation, but I feel like.

**00:06:06**Xochitl

And first of all, it's a violation of trust for the stepmom to be looking through the oldest son's private things.

**00:06:17**Xochitl

Second, the son and his new wife shouldn't be taking it personally, because obviously it's like something dear and important to them.

**00:06:26**Xochitl

But they can't.

**00:06:27**Xochitl

Just move on from like, that's their mom.

**00:06:30**Xochitl

And obviously should only be part of their life.

**00:06:34**Xochitl

They're like, why did they feel the need to hide it?

**00:06:38**Xochitl

I feel like that says more about the new life and their father and how they were dealing with the death and how it made his children from the first marriage feel unwelcome.

**00:06:52**Xochitl

Then it says anything bad about the children?

**00:06:54**Xochitl

Like I don't think the kids did anything wrong.

**00:06:57**Jack

Did, yeah.

**00:06:59**Jack

I agree with you 100.

**00:07:00**Jack

Percent they you are not the jerk.

**00:07:05**Jack

As a matter of fact, your parents are your your mother-in-law or you.

**00:07:09**Jack

Sorry, your stepmother.

**00:07:11**Jack

And your father are kind of jerks.

**00:07:14**Jack

If if I'm just reading this information.

**00:07:17**Xochitl

Especially the fact that they showed this to.

**00:07:22**Xochitl

His step sister, they said.

**00:07:24**Xochitl

They showed this to step sister.

**00:07:26**Xochitl

I'm like, why?

**00:07:27**Xochitl

That's really manipulative.

**00:07:28**Xochitl

Like, why would you pit the step sister?

**00:07:30**Xochitl

She didn't need to know anything about it like you just gave her this info to make the other kids look bad.

**00:07:37**Xochitl

So actually, you're creating a divide between the kids.

**00:07:40**Jack

You're creating the divide and also they they know nothing about grief.

**00:07:45**Jack

Like how dealing with grief grief is is the feeling that people feel when when somebody that you know that you're close to, that you love dies and people deal with grief in very different ways, and it takes a long time and sometimes people never overcome the feeling of grief.

**00:08:06**Jack

It's always with people and so in this case, the mother only died eight years ago.

**00:08:13**Jack

The kids were young, they lost their mother.

**00:08:16**Jack

So if this is a way for them to heal.

**00:08:20**Jack

Why in the world, why the heck would the parent?

**00:08:25**Jack

Would the father take that away from his own children?

**00:08:29**Jack

It's almost.

**00:08:31**Jack

Almost evil to me that you would do that.

**00:08:35**Jack

I mean.

**00:08:35**Xochitl

It's really cruel.

**00:08:36**Jack

Yeah. Cruel.

**00:08:38**Xochitl

Yeah, and.

**00:08:41**Xochitl

It's actually surprising because I feel like the kids are pretty well adjusted because they're dealing with in a pretty healthy way actually.

**00:08:49**Xochitl

Yeah, they should be proud.

**00:08:50**Jack

A lot of people deal with grief by drinking alcohol, by taking drugs, by acting out at school.

**00:08:58**Jack

But these kids are dealing with it by making a memory book about their family they had with them.

**00:09:04**Jack

Mother, when their mother and father were together, it's it's almost a beautiful thing and they parents are.

**00:09:11**Jack

So I think the right word is insecure.

**00:09:15**Jack

Like they seem like very insecure people, especially rose.

**00:09:18**Xochitl

You need to cure the like self-centered.

**00:09:23**Jack

They they, yeah, like almost like, don't think about the past.

**00:09:23**Xochitl

As soon as they can self-centered.

**00:09:28**Jack

It doesn't matter that she's gone.

**00:09:32**Jack

And that's such an unhealthy way to to deal with things so.

**00:09:36**Jack

I don't know.

**00:09:37**Jack

I really hope they get some counseling and and sort this out.

**00:09:40**Jack

Because I think the counselor will say that will look at the parents.

**00:09:43**Jack

Like, are you crazy?

**00:09:45**Jack

What are you doing?

**00:09:47**Jack

Like you're taking away their one outlet for dealing with this pain and you're taking it away from them.

**00:09:57**Jack

It doesn't make any sense.

**00:10:00**Xochitl

It's not going to have the outcome they want.

**00:10:03**Jack

No, it it's only only bad outcomes from here.

**00:10:08**Jack

All right, well, some more as we were talking before.

**00:10:12**Jack

So, so we came up with the term armchair psychology, right.

**00:10:16**Jack

So what does that mean?

**00:10:18**Jack

What does an armchair psychologist?

**00:10:21**Xochitl

And when only kids archaeologist is the sign that you use for someone who has no certification of qualification in psychology, but basically armchair meaning they're sitting behind the intern.

**00:10:33**Xochitl

Diagnosing people like psychologically, so some armchair psychology.

**00:10:36**Jack

Right.

**00:10:41**Jack

We're giving, like, mental health advice to people, but we have no.

**00:10:45**Jack

No authority, no credentials to do that, but it's still fun to, you know, everybody's got their opinions and I still think our advice is good, though I think we're we're I think we're on solid ground in our advice.

**00:11:00**Jack

But yeah, we would love to know what you the listeners out there think about this episode and this situation.

**00:11:00**Xochitl

I think so.

**00:11:08**Jack

Tell us what your opinion is at A-Z, [englishpodcast@gmail.com](mailto:englishpodcast@gmail.com) A-Z, [englishpodcast@gmail.com](mailto:englishpodcast@gmail.com). You can go to our website A-Z.



**00:11:20** Jack

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☞

Englishpodcast.com and join our WhatsApp group and yeah, send us an e-mail. Send us a WhatsApp chat and let us know what your opinion is about this episode. So with that said, thanks everybody. We'll see you next time. Bye bye.

**00:11:50** 발표자

In the beginning.

문서에 추가☞새 전사