The modern British family

I) Are these sentences true or false?

1. Divorce is not common in Britain.    True / False
2. Childcare is not cheap in Britain.     True / False
3. Women can now earn as much as men.    True / False
4. Many mothers nowadays are not married. True / False

II) Summary completion; fill in the correct words:

The _____________ (old) picture of a happy family living in Britain is no longer true. In the past 20 years, the lives and _____________ (make up) of families in Britain have changed enormously. The biggest change has been caused by ________________ (separation). As many as 2 out of 3 _____________ (relationships) now end in divorce, leading to a situation where many children live with one _____________ (father or mother) and only see the other at weekends or holidays. Nowadays, many mothers also work, because they need to work to _____________ (earn money for) themselves and their children. This has caused an ________________ (rise) in childcare facilities, which are very expensive and can be _____________ (hard) to find in many areas. In addition, women are no longer happy to stay at home _____________ (bringing up) children, and many mothers earn as much as or even more than men. There are also many single mothers, ________________ (especially) among teenagers. Many of their children never get to know their fathers. However, these changes have not had a totally ________________ (bad) effect. For women, it has become much easier to have a ________________ (success in the job). In addition, modern children are often more independent and ________________ (grown-up) than in the past, because they are used to dealing with ________________ (unknown people) and mixing with other children.

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