**It is generally acknowledged that families now are not as close as they used to be. What are some possible reasons for this and what can be done to reverse the trend?**

说明文

typical essay tasks of Report:

analyze the main causes and potential impacts of a problem and offer possible solutions to it

确定话题范围：家庭生活

第一段：

With the ever-increasing pace of modern life, family bonds/ties have suffered dramatically in recent decades.

I think there are several reasons for it**, and** there is much that can and should be done to reverse the trend. 交代写作任务

第二段：

The primary reason leading to the significant reduction of family closeness is the influence of technology to family life.

In the past, there were much fewer technological products in daily lives.

For example, people did not have computers to play with or cell phones to chat on; instead, they communicated with each other in person**, and** the more they communicated, the closer they might become.

Conversely, parents and children nowadays are often using different kinds of communication tools such as social networking websites at home **to build up** relationships with others **rather than** **to communicate** with their own families.

Obviously, this will reduce a large amount of quality family time.

第三段：

Additionally, more and more working parents tend to spend the majority of their time in the office or even work overtime at home, as they have to ensure an advantageous position in the face of stiff competition. Consequently, they have little time to be with their children, which may easily result in an increasing sense of alienation/isolation in the family.

A similar case happens to children who are often sent to boarding schools and return home once a week or even a month **due to/owing to/because of** many working parents not having enough time to look after their children after school.

第四段：

To solve the problem, I think, a crucial factor is to ensure that families spend sufficient time together and enhance communication between their members. For instance, parents shouldset a good example by cutting down the time spent on technological devices at home, place restrictions on the Internet usage**, and** find more chances to talk to their children regularly.

A very good way for family members to have more quality time together is to choose a special day every month as their family day, so they could secure a moment to visit museums or have a picnic somewhere in the park.

第五段：

More importantly, parents should always remember that they are working for a better life with their families, not living to work. As for children, some more traditional values about family closeness should be imparted to them whether at home or school so as to help them shape a correct attitude towards family.

第六段：

Overall, I believe that great efforts from both parents and children are necessary to reverse the trend.

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