TITLE: HOW TO COMMUNICATE: DISAGREEMENT WITH A FAMILY DECISION

**Scene 1:** REYNALDO and his friend ALEX are studying together. REYNALDO’s laptop signals a new email has been sent to him.

00:01 **REYNALDO**: (uneasy) Oh boy.

00:03 **ALEX**: What?

00:05 **REYNALDO**: My mom just sent an email. She's all excited about this idea she has that our whole family should take off for two weeks and drive to see my grandparents. She's got my sister on board and she says . . . (continues to read message) . . . Oh great! She's already got my grandparents figuring out dates. I'm supposed to let her know if early July is good. This is not happening!

00:28 **ALEX**: What are you going to do?

00:30 **REYNALDO**: Already on it. (typing and saying aloud) "Dear Mom…. I’d like to talk with you about our plans for next summer. When would be a good time for me to call? Or, can we talk at home this weekend? I’ll be there on Saturday morning. Love, Rey."

00:54 **Scene 2:** Saturday Morning.REYNALDO and his mother stand in the kitchen eating homemade cookies.

00:58 **BOBBI**: It's great to have you home!

01:00 **REYNALDO**: It's good to be home! I've missed you and I've missed these cookies! (tentative) So, I want to talk about this trip idea, Mom. The thing is I have a summer job lined up and it doesn’t allow much flexibility in my schedule.

01:20 **BOBBI**: But Reynaldo, we're all counting on you coming. It's been so long since we’ve all been together. I've already told your grandparents and they’re so excited.

01:28 **REYNALDO**: I know how excited everyone is about the trip, especially you. But I just can’t take two weeks off from work. I need those hours to pay for school next year. I hope you can understand my situation, and that I’m not disappointing you too much with my decision. Maybe we could come up with an idea so I can be part of it without missing so much work.

01:52 **BOBBI**: I don't see how.

01:55 **REYNALDO**: Why don’t we invite grandma and grandpa to fly out for the 4th of July? I have that weekend off, so we all can be together and reconnect as a family.

02:07 **BOBBI**: (takes a beat to consider alternative ideas, then hesitantly proceeds, thinking aloud) Or, maybe you could fly out and join us for just that weekend?

02:16 REYNALDO and BOBBI brainstorm as the scene fades out.