

SUMMIT CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT TALKS

Character Development talks are given by the classroom advisor or an experienced tutor in the class appointed by him. Tutors should remain in the classroom to encourage their student to pay attention and participate. The talk outlines are passed-out a week in advance so the speaker can have an adequate amount of time to prepare the talks.

Talks are given at the end of the tutoring session, and should not exceed 10 minutes. Speaker should try to get to know everyone's name in the class, call on students by their name if possible, and ask a lot of questions to encourage active participation and discussion. The speaker is encouraged to use anecdotes and jokes to keep the talk lively.

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The All-Star Team Goal Sheet

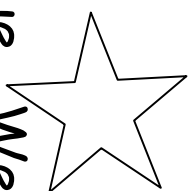
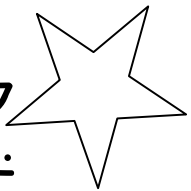
1. What is the All-Star goal sheet?
 - What is a good habit?
 - What is a bad habit?
 - If something becomes a habit, it is not very hard to do anymore. The key is to have good habits and not bad habits.
 - The All-Star sheets are meant to give us daily practice on things that we want and need to improve on. That way, we form a good habit. For example, a great piano player began by practicing scales and probably didn't really enjoy it at first but wanted to be good at it so he practiced.
 - If we don't want to improve on something we will never do the All-Star goals and so we'll never improve the habit.
 - Example of a bad habit (not going to bed on time)
 - The trick is to think it through and talk to the tutor about it so that we want to improve on the particular habit.
2. What are some hints to make it fun to do the All-Star goals.
 - Make your tutor do it too.
 - Make a wager with your tutor to see who'll do the most All-Stars.
 - 5 push-ups
 - Piece of candy
 - Tutor agrees to come on the excursion if you do you're All-Stars
 - Tutor agrees to buy you a soda
3. How can we get the most out of the All-Star Team?
 - Be honest if you didn't do the goal.
 - Don't worry what anybody thinks, but don't lie to try and impress anybody
 - Involve your parents and get them in on the fun. Do some goals that they would like you to do and then put a little incentive on it, for example, your favorite meal at the end of the week for making your bed each day, or maybe some ice-cream for practicing your instrument each day or reading 5-extra pages every day.
 - It's important to keep your sheet in a place that you can easily refer such as taped to the refrigerator.
 - It's important to check off the goals every day. Don't try to remember what you did and didn't do at the end of the week. You'll never be able to do it.
 - Have your parents sign it. It won't count here if one of them doesn't.
4. What are good goals?
 - It's easy? Come up with what you want to get good at and then work backwards until you can come up with a small goal. Example, I want to improve my English grade so I will read 5 extra pages each day. I want to learn how to play an instrument so I will practice ½ hour each day.
 - Good goals are small and concrete. For example, a bad goal is be good. A good goal is to not hit your brother. Being good is very relative but not hitting your brother is very objective. At the end of the day, it's easy to say I've been good, but we can honestly say whether or not I hit my little brother.

The All-Star Team

Name: _____

Date: _____ Week: _____

One-On-One Program



Daily Goals

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Tue

Wed

Thur

Fri

Sat

Sun

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Tutor Signature _____

Parent Signature _____

Parental Performance Review on back side***

*** 1 Bonus Point per sentence, 5 points maximum

Asking Questions

1. It is really a good thing to ask questions. Most people think that if they ask a question, people will think that they are dumb, but it is really a sign of a wise person to ask good questions.
2. There is an old saying the only dumb question is the one you didn't ask. Explain.
3. If you don't understand the teacher or somebody else like your tutor, they will think that you're very wise for asking a question.
4. It takes a little bravery to ask a question and people around you will both admire you and thank you because they were afraid to ask the same question.
5. If someone asks you to do something for them, for example your teacher or parents, it is best to ask if you don't understand what to do. It will save a lot of time and energy of having to do it over again.
6. There are a lot of things around us that we might not understand. If we ask questions, we will get answers and therefore, we'll be much smarter.
7. If we don't ask questions, we will become very comfortable and even lazy when we don't know things that we should. This is not a good trademark of a responsible person.
8. The sign of a very smart person is someone who asks a question when he doesn't understand something. It's never a sign of stupidity.

THE ASSIGNMENT NOTEBOOK AND HOMEWORK FOLDER

ASSIGNMENT NOTEBOOK

1. IT IS GOOD TO USE A NOTEBOOK TO KEEP TRACK OF YOUR HOMEWORK EACH DAY. BY WRITING OUR ASSIGNMENTS IN A NOTEBOOK EACH TIME WE GET ONE, WE WILL REMEMBER TO DO IT.
2. THIS NOTEBOOK CAN ALSO BE USED TO REMEMBER OTHER THINGS. FOR EXAMPLE, YOU CAN WRITE DOWN THINGS YOU WANT TO DO LIKE CALL YOUR TUTOR, OR SEND YOUR FRIEND A LETTER. THE ASSIGNMENT NOTEBOOK IS A GREAT PLACE TO PUT PHONE NUMBERS, ADDRESSES, AND LITTLE REMINDERS.
3. IF WE WRITE THINGS DOWN, WE WILL REMEMBER TO DO THINGS. IF WE DON'T WRITE THINGS DOWN, WE CAN EASILY FORGET. HOW MANY TIMES HAVE WE FORGOTTEN TO DO THINGS?
4. OUR TUTORS USE NOTEBOOKS TO REMEMBER THINGS ALSO. MAYBE THEY HAVE SOME EXAMPLES OF WHAT THEY USE THEM FOR.
5. IF WE CAN GET INTO THE HABIT OF USING A NOTEBOOK, HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE EASIER TO ACCOMPLISH BECAUSE WE HAVE A REMINDER. MOST OF THE TIME, WE DON'T DO WHAT WE WANT BECAUSE WE SIMPLY FORGET (I.E., CALLING OUR TUTOR). HOW MANY TIMES THIS WEEK DID WE FORGET TO DO SOMETHING?

HOMEWORK FOLDER

1. STUDENTS SHOULD BRING ALL OF THEIR TESTS AND HOMEWORK EACH WEEK TO SHOW YOUR TUTOR. THIS INCLUDES TESTS AND HOMEWORK THAT HAS BEEN HANDED BACK TO YOU BY YOUR TEACHER, AND ALSO, HOMEWORK THAT YOU HAVEN'T HANDED IN YET.
2. THIS WILL NOT HAPPEN UNLESS YOU CAN PUT EVERYTHING INTO A FOLDER. AS SOON AS YOU GET A PAPER BACK FROM YOUR TEACHER, PUT IT IN THIS FOLDER. THIS FOLDER SHOULD CONTAIN ALL OF YOUR HOMEWORK AND YOUR REPORT CARD WHEN YOU GET IT. WE SHOULD NOT PUT PAPERS IN THE BOTTOM OF OUR BOOKBAG BECAUSE THEY GET CRUSHED AND SOGGY.

Getting Along With Our Brothers & Sisters

If we don't get along with our brothers and sisters very well, here's some things to remember:

1. We should try to be best friends with our brothers and sisters.
2. It isn't always easy to get along with people we live with and sometimes we must work at getting along with our brothers and sisters because it won't come easy.
3. Sometimes we have to over look their bad habits and things they do that we don't like.
4. It's good to get along with everyone we interact with at school, work and at home. To learn how to do this, we must first learn how to get along with our brothers and sisters.
5. We shouldn't pick on our little brothers or sisters. We should look out for them.
6. We shouldn't aggravate our older brothers or sisters. That way it will be easier for them to be nice to us.
7. We have to learn how to serve people and make them happy in order for us to be happy. If we only look out for ourselves, we will not be happy. That means, if we only want to get our own way, we won't be happy. Examples, wanting to watch our TV programs, being selfish with our toys, being selfish with candy and treats.
8. Even if it's hard to get along with our brothers and sisters, it is well worth it because we'll learn how to treat people, especially our own wife and children, when we grow up.
9. We should always look out for our brothers and sisters first. For example, if our friends want to do something and your mom asks you to do something with your little brother, we shouldn't act as if our brother is a pain.
10. If we try to be friends with our brothers and sisters now, we will be best friends when we grow up.

CHEERFULNESS

Being cheerful means thinking and showing optimism through smiling when you are around others. Being cheerful around others shows that you have a sense of humor about life. So when you are cheerful with others, they will be cheerful as well, and you will both be happier. If you are negative and frowning all the time, then it will be harder for you to get along with others and to make friends.

Sometimes you do not feel like being cheerful around others because you are frustrated or annoyed with something. So to be cheerful around others all the time takes practice, and eventually, it will become a habit. If you loose your tempter often, it will take you more practice to learn how to control your feelings. The goal of cheerfulness is to make others happy, even when you are not. When you see how happy they are, and that it is because of you, then you will feel better too.

1. EVERYBODY SHOULD ALWAYS BE HAPPY. HAPPINESS IS NOT THE SAME AS PLEASURE OR FEELING GOOD OR WALKING AROUND WITH A SMILE ON OUR FACE ALL OF THE TIME. TRUE HAPPINESS COMES FROM KNOWING THAT WE ARE TRYING TO DO THE RIGHT THING. FOR EXAMPLE, WHAT MAKES YOUR PARENTS HAPPY IS WORKING HARD TO RAISE CHILDREN. CHILDREN ARE HAPPY WHEN THEY DO THINGS WHICH MAKE THEIR PARENTS HAPPY. ANOTHER EXAMPLE, IF WE DON'T DO OUR HOMEWORK BUT WATCH T.V. INSTEAD, WE ARE NOT REALLY HAPPY BECAUSE WE KNOW THAT WE SHOULD BE DOING OUR HOMEWORK.
2. THINGS MAY HAPPEN WHICH ARE OUT OF OUR CONTROL AND WE MAY FEEL BAD, BUT WE SHOULD NOT GET TOO SAD ABOUT ANYTHING. IF WE FEEL BAD ABOUT SOMETHING THAT HAS HAPPENED, WE SHOULD TRY AND TALK IT OVER WITH SOMEONE THAT WE TRUST. YOU SHOULD TRY TO TALK TO YOUR PARENTS BECAUSE THEY WANT NOTHING BUT YOUR OWN GOOD. IF NOT YOUR PARENTS, THEN A PRIEST OR MINISTER OR MAYBE EVEN YOUR TUTOR. IT SHOULD BE SOMEONE WHO YOU KNOW WILL GIVE YOU GOOD ADVICE.
3. MANY TIMES, SADNESS OR UNEASINESS COMES WHEN WE KNOW THAT WHAT WE DID OR ARE DOING IS SOMETHING THAT IS WRONG. IT IS VERY HARD TO BE CHEERFUL WHEN WE'VE DONE SOMETHING WRONG. HOW DO WE KNOW WHEN WE'VE DONE SOMETHING WRONG? GOD HAS GIVEN US OUR PARENTS AND THE TEN COMMANDMENTS. WHENEVER WE DO SOMETHING THAT WOULD MAKE OUR PARENTS UNHAPPY OR GOD UNHAPPY, WE CAN BE SURE IT IS NOT RIGHT AND IT WILL BE TOUGH TO BE CHEERFUL.

Confidence

Key words: Optimism
Courage
Fear
Faith

Confidence - *Con* means with, *Fidence* is from the latin word *fide* which means faith.

To do things with faith means to do things confidently.

Sometimes fear is a good thing.

- It's good to be afraid to do bad things that would hurt others and offend God.
- It's good to be afraid of doing dangerous things like playing with explosives or walking too close to the edge of a high place.

Sometimes fear is a bad thing.

Fear may prevent us from doing good things. People often don't try to do good things because they are afraid of failing. For example:

- I'm not going to try to study because I'm just a dummy and I'm afraid I won't be able to get good grades.
- I'm not going to try out for the team because I'm afraid I won't make it and I'm afraid people will think I'm stupid for trying, or I'm not going to do the race because I'm afraid I'm not going to win.
- I'm not going to raise my hand because people will think I'm stupid if I get the answer wrong, or they will think I'm stupid if I ask a question that everybody else knows.

It takes courage to do something that you're afraid to do. Not everybody has a lot of courage, but it takes less courage to do something if you have confidence in yourself. Everybody should have confidence in themselves. How do we get confidence?

- Confidence comes through practice.
- Confidence comes from understanding that we are no different from anyone else.
- Confidence comes from knowing that if we are willing to work hard, good things will happen.
- Confidence comes from working your hardest and not worrying about the results.
- Confidence comes from being optimistic. The world is not going to end if things go wrong.
- Confidence comes from knowing that trying as hard as we can will make us happy. Not trying will make us sad.
- Confidence comes from knowing that we are a child of God and like the song says "He's got the whole world in His hands" so we should never be afraid to do good things because of His protection.

Example: Test tomorrow. If we have no confidence we will be afraid to study because even if we do, we won't pass it. If we have faith and optimism we won't worry about the results but we will only worry about getting down to study and being optimistic.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt - "The only thing to fear is fear itself." Explain.

CONTROLLING OUR EMOTIONS

1. What are emotions? Emotions are feelings. Emotions control the way we feel. Name some emotions...happiness, sadness, anger, joy, excitement, fear, hate, love, etc. Emotions are powerful - often times they can control the way we act. Emotions can control the way we act in good ways and in bad ways.
2. We may sometimes forget how much our parents love us and what they do for us. Our parents provide food and clothes for us; give us rides to school, to practice, and to Midtown; they compliment and encourage us to do our best; our parents sacrifice a lot for us. This will make us feel the emotion of graciousness and love and may influence us to tell them thanks for all they do and to tell them that we love them. In this case our emotions have helped us to act in a very good way.
3. At other times we may feel very angry. Maybe our sister is saying mean and untrue things about us. Because we feel angry we may lose our temper and yell and scream at her and maybe even shove her. In this case the emotion of anger has caused us to act wrongly. When we are mad and are about to lose our temper it would be much better, that it would show the strength of our character to walk away and calm down. Later we could return to our sister and calmly explain that the things she said were mean, false, and hurtful to us.
4. It is always best to avoid arguments that involve yelling and screaming. Getting involved in a shouting match only shows that we are immature and not in control of our emotions. We are much more effective in convincing others of our point when we speak calmly with words that make sense than when we shout things that do not make any sense (explain).
5. (An important, related point) “Paybacks” and taking revenge is wrong. Because somebody has wronged us we don’t have the duty or even the right to wrong them. If Danny punches Jake in the nose during recess, Jake should not punch Danny back. If Jake walks away he is not being a coward - he is being a hero. Jake is showing that he is man enough to control his emotion and forgive Danny. It takes a stronger person to walk away than it does to act on emotion and strike back. Striking back causes escalated rivalry and hatred, which can lead, to ongoing bad relations and even violence. This is what gangs are based on - people who are not mature enough and not strong enough to talk peacefully and control their emotions.
6. Conclusion: emotions are a good thing. Without emotions life would be boring. We need to learn to recognize and control our emotions so that they help us to show what we truly believe in and value rather than influence us to act on the “spur of the moment” in inappropriate ways.

Discipline

What is Discipline?

Discipline is a skill that you need to train yourself in order to develop self-control, to maintain efficiency in your life. It can be your set of strict controls to force yourself to strive for a goal, and reach for some purpose that will make you happy or make you come out on top.

Discipline can be forced upon you by your parents, teachers, or advisers, but it is usually more effective for you as a student when it comes from within yourself.

Where can discipline come into your life?

Discipline can be present in every aspect of your daily activities in your life. Some of these which you should be familiar with is when you wake up or go to bed, when you decide to do your homework, read a book, or clean your room, when you make plans to play a sport with your friends. Simply taking time out to spend time with your family - brother/sister or parents can be part of your discipline to be a better brother or son.

Who has discipline in their life?

The most effective and successful people have the highest forms of discipline in their life. They know how much practice and work it will take to try and be the best in their fields of work. Whether it is in professional sports or in the work force.

Example:

A doctor needs discipline for many reasons:

- 1) To take care of an emergency patient in a hospital.
- 2) To offer enough hours to make it helpful for families to bring in their children in times of sickness.

What would happen if they did not have discipline and make these efforts?

When is discipline necessary in life?

It's always necessary to have discipline in your life. It forces you to have a schedule of your priorities in what you need to do to focus in your school work most importantly in life right now. Discipline in school is what will determine what college you may be able to get into, which determines the job you may get when you are old enough to take care of yourself. The people that have discipline in their life along with other key characteristics that we talk about each week are the people who get the most happiness in life.

How much discipline do you need in your life?

Only you can answer this question.

Are you performing at the level you want to?

Are you receiving the grades you want or are capable of, and if you are not – how much time are you spending with your schoolwork?

Are you spending enough time with your family to show that you care?

FREEDOM AND RESPONSIBILITY

WHAT DOES FREEDOM MEAN?

WHAT IS FREE WILL?

WHAT ARE CONSEQUENCES FOR NOT USING FREE WILL RESPONSIBLY?

1. THE IDEA THAT WE ARE A FREE COUNTRY DOESN'T MEAN WE CAN DO WHATEVER WE WANT. FREEDOM MEANS WE HAVE A FREE WILL TO CHOOSE SOMETHING THAT IS GOOD FOR US OR SOMETHING THAT IS NOT GOOD FOR US. IF WE CHOOSE SOMETHING BAD, WE CAN GET OUR FREEDOM TAKEN AWAY TO A GREATER OR LESSER EXTENT.
2. FOR EXAMPLE, IF WE DO SOMETHING BAD, WE MIGHT GO TO JAIL. WE ARE NO LONGER FREE.
3. IF WE DO SOMETHING NOT SO BAD, BUT STILL BAD LIKE NOT DOING OUR HOMEWORK, WE HAVE TO FACE THE CONSEQUENCES OF OUR TEACHER GETTING MAD AT US. WE ALSO DON'T LEARN, WHICH IS THE REAL REASON WE ARE DOING IT IN THE FIRST PLACE. IF WE DON'T LEARN, THEN WE HAVE TO FACE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT KNOWING WHAT WE'RE SUPPOSED TO. THIS USUALLY MEANS WE'RE NOT FREE TO GET A GOOD GRADE OR GET INTO A GOOD HIGH SCHOOL.
4. THE TRICK THEREFORE IS TO USE OUR FREEDOM WISELY SO THAT WE CAN BE IN ONE SENSE, FREER TO DO THE THINGS WE WANT TO. THIS IS CALLED BEING RESPONSIBLE.
5. WE WANT TO GROW-UP TO BE VERY RESPONSIBLE BECAUSE PEOPLE WILL TRUST US, WE WILL BE ABLE TO GET A GOOD JOB AND WE CAN HELP A LOT OF PEOPLE. IF WE USE OUR FREEDOM BADLY, WE GET INTO THE HABIT OF TAKING THE EASY WAY OUT. ANOTHER WORD FOR THIS TYPE OF PERSON IS IRRESPONSIBLE.
6. WE ARE FREE TO DO WHATEVER WE WANT, BUT WE HAVE TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR OUR ACTIONS. THAT'S WHY WE CAN'T ALWAYS DO WHAT WE FEEL LIKE DOING.
7. EXAMPLE: IT'S EASY TO WATCH T.V. IT'S HARD TO DO OUR HOMEWORK. IF WE TAKE THE EASY WAY OUT, WE WON'T GET OUR HOMEWORK AND STUDYING DONE.

FRIENDSHIP WITH GOD

1. IT SHOULD BE IMPORTANT TO EVERYONE THAT THEY SHOULD BECOME FRIENDS WITH GOD. THE LENGTH OF ETERNITY COMPARED TO OUR LIFE IS MUCH GREATER THAN ALL OF THE OCEANS COMPARED WITH A DROP OF WATER. ANY GOOD BUSINESSMAN WOULD AGREE THAT RISKING INVESTMENT (THE EFFORT OF BECOMING FRIENDS WITH GOD) IS WORTH THE RETURN (BEING HAPPY WITH HIM IN ETERNITY).
2. LIKE EVERYTHING ELSE THAT WE LEARN IN THESE CHARACTER TALKS, A PERSON WHO HAS CHARACTER AND PRINCIPLES HAS TO BE CONSISTENT WITH THE THINGS HE BELIEVES IN. FOR EXAMPLE, WHEN WE TALK ABOUT THE GOOD HABIT OF BEING HONEST, BUT DON'T TRY TO BE HONEST, WE WOULD BE INCONSISTENT WITH OUR BELIEFS. THIS IS THE DEFINITION OF BEING PHONEY AND NOT A PERSON WHO HAS CHARACTER. ALMOST EVERYBODY BELIEVES IN GOD, BUT MANY PEOPLE DON'T TRY TO MAKE FRIENDS WITH HIM. HOW DO WE MAKE FRIENDS WITH GOD? THE SAME WAY WE MAKE FRIENDS WITH OUR PARENTS. HOW DO WE MAKE FRIENDS WITH OUR PARENTS? BY DOING WHAT WE'RE SUPPOSED TO, BY TALKING TO THEM, BY DOING NICE THINGS ONCE AND A WHILE FOR THEM. IT'S THE SAME WAY WITH GOD. WE TRY TO OBEY HIS COMMANDMENTS, WE TRY TO TALK WITH HIM BY PRAYING WHICH IS THE SAME THING, BY GOING TO CHURCH, AND BY LEARNING ABOUT YOUR FAITH. IF WE SAY WE BELIEVE IN GOD, THEN WE MUST TAKE GOD SERIOUSLY AND PRACTICE OUR FAITH.
3. EVEN THE GOVERNMENT MENTIONS GOD QUITE OFTEN IN THINGS LIKE THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND COINS WHICH SAY "IN GOD WE TRUST". WHY DO THEY DO THIS? BECAUSE THEY REALIZE HOW IMPORTANT GOD IS IN PEOPLE'S LIVES, AND WE MUST TAKE GOD SERIOUSLY BY PRACTICING OUR FAITH.
4. IF A PERSON DOESN'T PRACTICE HIS FAITH, HE IS MISSING SOMETHING EXTREMELY IMPORTANT IN HIS LIFE. IT'S LIKE A PERSON WHO'S ONLY INTERESTED IN SPORTS AND NOT ACADEMICS TOO. OR IF WE ONLY ATE MEAT WITHOUT ANY VEGETABLES. IF WE OVERLOOK OUR FAITH, WE ARE MISSING ANOTHER DIMENSION IN OUR LIVES THAT WE SHOULD HAVE. WE LEARN A GREAT DEAL ABOUT MORALS (THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN RIGHT AND WRONG) WHEN WE TRY TO LIVE OUR FAITH. WE ALSO LEARN THAT WE ARE HERE FOR ONLY A VERY SHORT TIME COMPARED WITH ETERNITY.
5. WHAT ELSE CAN WE DO TO BECOME BETTER FRIENDS WITH GOD? EXAMPLES: BY BEING GOOD TO OUR PARENTS, BROTHERS, SISTERS, ETC. FOR GOD; BY STUDYING HARD AND GIVING THAT EFFORT TO GOD LIKE WE WOULD GIVE A PRESENT TO OUR PARENTS, AND GOD APPRECIATES EVERYTHING YOU DO FOR HIM. OTHER EXAMPLES?

FRIENDSHIP

1. HAVING FRIENDS IS A GOOD THING. HAVING FRIENDS IS LOTS OF FUN. WE LEARN FROM THEM. THEY LEARN FROM US. WE SHOULD TRY TO HAVE MANY FRIENDS. WE CAN HELP THEM AND THEY CAN HELP US.
2. HAVING FRIENDS TEACHES US HOW TO GET ALONG WITH MANY PEOPLE. WE BECOME LESS SELF-CENTERED (SELFISH) IF WE HAVE GOOD FRIENDS BECAUSE WE HAVE TO THINK ABOUT THEM INSTEAD OF OURSELVES.
3. WE HAVE TO BE GOOD FRIENDS TO THOSE AROUND US. WHAT ARE QUALITIES OF A GOOD FRIEND? A GOOD FRIEND WON'T GET ANOTHER INTO TROUBLE. A GOOD FRIEND HELPS THE OTHER OUT WHEN IT'S NOT NECESSARILY EASY TO DO (HELP WITH STUDYING, OR CHORES INSTEAD OF ALWAYS HAVING TO HAVE A "GOOD TIME"). A GOOD FRIEND WILL TELL HIS FRIEND TO STAY OUT OF TROUBLE IF THERE IS A CHANCE OF THAT HAPPENING. A GOOD FRIEND WILL BE LOYAL; NOT TALKING BEHIND HIS BACK AND REFUSING TO LISTEN TO OTHERS WHO DO.
4. WE DON'T WANT TO BE A FRIEND WHO IS ONLY A "GOOD TIME CHARLIE". THIS MEANS, YOU NEVER WANT TO GO OUT OF YOUR WAY FOR YOUR FRIEND, BUT WILL HAVE FUN. PEOPLE LIKE THAT ARE ONLY ACQUAINTANCES AND NOT REALLY FRIENDS.
5. WE DON'T WANT TO BE A BAD INFLUENCE ON OUR FRIENDS, BUT A GOOD INFLUENCE. THEREFORE, WE CAN'T GIVE OUR FRIENDS A HARD TIME WHEN THEY WANT TO STUDY AND WE WANT TO PLAY.
6. WE HAVE TO MAKE GOOD FRIENDS BECAUSE BAD FRIENDS CAN HAVE A BAD INFLUENCE ON US. WE MUST HAVE THE STRENGTH OF CHARACTER TO TELL A FRIEND THAT HE IS OUT OF LINE WHEN HE WANTS US TO DO SOMETHING WRONG.

Fun Reading

Note: Don't try to cover everything when you give this talk. Emphasize a few highlights and try to show how important and fun reading is.

IMPORTANCE OF READING AND THE NEED TO ENJOY IT

- Reading is not just another subject such as science or math or social studies, it is the foundation of every other subject.
- Extra reading can be lots of fun. In fact the more you do it, the more fun it is.
- If you like to learn about cool things then reading is for you. If you want to be bored all of the time, then reading isn't for you.
- The more you read the smarter you get. The more you watch TV, the duller you become. (dull is the opposite of sharp)
- The younger a person starts to read a lot, the smarter he will become.
- Unlike TV, you can pick-up a book any time. You're not a slave to the TV schedule.
- Just as athletes acquire skills and develop their bodies by practicing, reading allows us to acquire intellectual skills and develop our mind.
- If you get in the habit of reading for fun, you will become wise because you will be exposed to all sorts of ideas.
- Everybody should always have a book to read besides schoolbooks.
- If you can read 5 pages every day, that is over 1825 pages a year. It's only a little every day but if you read that much, you will be able to do whatever you want when you grow up.
- It's like a sport. The more you do it, the more you like to do it. The more you read, the more fun it becomes.
- Ask your tutor to help you pick out a book. There are really great adventures, better than any TV show
- The key to writing well is to read a lot.
- The key to speaking well is to read a lot.
- The key to getting a good job is to read a lot.
- The key to getting good grades is to read a lot.
- The key to being smart is to read a lot.
- The key to being an interesting person is to read a lot.
- Don't worry about turning into a nerd.

Practical Pointers:

- Read only a small amount each day (5 to 10 pages). That way you won't feel like you're doing too much and it will be easier to do it every day.
- Find a book on a subject you like.
- Find a quiet place and sit in a position that you won't fall asleep in.
- Take your time so you understand what you're reading. If you understand it you'll have much more interest and fun.
- Keep a dictionary near-by. Look-up the words that you don't know.
- Talk to your tutor about what you've read each week.

GANGS

1. Why are gangs dangerous?

Gangs deal with drugs, guns, and alcohol, things that can have a very dangerous effect on you.

 - Drugs cause you to be in a state where you are not in control and can make you addicted so that you betray friends and family to get the drugs.
 - Guns are dangerous for obvious reasons and other gangs will not think twice about using guns against you if you have something that they want.
 - Alcohol also causes you to be in a frame of mind where you are not in control. You can get into accidents and hurt people you care about when you're under the influence of alcohol.

2. Why is the sense of "brotherhood" in gangs a false sense?
 - Gangs may seem to have a tight knit "family" to them but they really don't.
 - Other people in the gang are only after money and power, not after having a brotherhood.
 - All they want to do is use others to gain those things, not to acquire friendship.

3. What about all the money that can be made in gangs?
 - While it's true that a lot of money can be made, the money that one can make in a gang comes at a great risk.
 - One often has to risk going to jail or worse, risking their life to make money.
 - Is it worth risking your life for money, money that won't make you happy in the end?

4. What about all the kind of glamour that comes from being in a gang?
 - There's nothing glamorous about losing people in your life to gang shootouts.
 - If you sell drugs, you provide an opportunity for people to ruin their own lives. That's no proud accomplishment.

5. Why can't you just leave the gang if you don't like it?
 - It's very difficult to leave a gang because the members want to use you to gain more power and influence for themselves.
 - Also they are afraid that you will tell the police or someone else that will get them into trouble.

Thanksgiving - Giving Thanks

Why should we be thankful?

Because everything we have is not from our own doing. We have many things that others don't have. It would be wrong to think our good fortune is due to ourselves. If we thought that way, we would not be living in the real world, but our own little world. People who live in their own little worlds are usually a bit strange.

What do we have to be thankful for?

Some obvious things:

Parents, Brothers and Sisters, Our Health, Food, Clothing, Homes, School and Teachers, Tutors. Give examples of people do not have these.

Some less obvious things:

Nature or Creation, Health, Modern Conveniences like electricity, plumbing, heat, telephones, radio, TV, etc; Basic Freedoms such as speech, press, religion, etc; Civil Peace, Stable Government, Life. Give examples of people who do not have these

We should even be thankful to God for bad things that happen to us because they make us better persons if we can offer them up to God. For example, a broken leg, a failed exam, etc. God has his eye on us and doesn't want bad things to happen to us but permits them if they make us better.

Who should we be thankful to?

Parents, Brothers and Sisters, Teachers, Tutors, and God

How do we show our thanks to these people?

Parents: Just say thank you to them once in awhile for all they've done for you; being respectful to them; obeying them

Brothers and Sisters: Doing favors for them; Being considerate of their needs and preferences;

Others (Teachers, etc.): Showing respect for and obeying them

Other ways: Taking care of your personal belongings as well as things belonging to others;

God: Telling Him thanks and obeying His commands. Helping God's creatures who are not as fortunate as we are. God will appreciate it a lot.

What does it say about us when we don't show thanks?

It shows that we are not really thankful for all we've been given.

If we are not thankful, then we will often times act selfishly because we will only be thinking of ourselves instead of reality, that is, where things really come from.

Conclusion:

Everything that we have is given to us. Our talents, our parents, our good looks, our health. We have to be grateful for all we have, and everything we don't have because God has wanted it that way.

Importance of Reading

1) Why is it important to learn how to read?

Reading is not just another subject such as science or math or English, it is the foundation of every other subject. If we learn to read well then we will have an easier time learning all our other subjects in school even the more difficult ones.

Reading allows us to acquire intellectual skills and develop our minds. Educators say that students who can concentrate longer on a subject do better in school. Reading is like exercise for the mind. It strengthens it allowing us to concentrate on a subject longer.

Reading is a better use of time than passive activities like watching TV.

2) What is the best way to learn how to read?

Like almost anything else we learn by doing. We learn to read by reading. Just as athletes need to practice to become better athletes, readers need to read to become better readers.

Besides our reading in school, we can read books for fun. It's best to not only choose a book about a subject or story of interest to you, but also to read books about subjects your not familiar with. This will broaden your horizons.

We should be careful about the books we choose to read. Not all books are suitable for kids. Ask your parents, local librarian or your tutor as to which books are best for you.

We can make a goal to read a certain amount out of a book everyday – say 5 to 10 pages a day for example.

3) How can we be sure that we our understanding what we are reading?

We can pause during and after our reading session to summarize in our own words what we have read. We should try to summarize the meaning in a few phrases or sentences.

We can constantly ask ourselves questions about the main ideas presented like: What is this story trying to tell me? or How have the character(s) changed in the end?

We can look up words that we don't know in a dictionary when we run across them in the course of our reading.

THE IMPORTANCE OF DOING LITTLE THINGS WELL

1. REMEMBER HOW A BIG HOUSE IS BUILT, ONE BRICK AT A TIME. IF THE BRICKS ARE LAID WELL, THE ENTIRE STRUCTURE WILL BE STRONG. IF THE BRICKS ARE LAID SLOPPILY WITHOUT CARE, THE ENTIRE STRUCTURE WILL BE WEAK.
2. MOST OF THE THINGS YOU DO ARE ORDINARY LITTLE THINGS: DAILY SCHOOLWORK, CHORES AROUND THE HOUSE, GETTING ALONG WITH OUR FAMILY, RECREATION. HOW YOU GROW UP DEPENDS A GREAT DEAL ON HOW RESPONSIBLY YOU DO THESE SMALL ORDINARY THINGS.
3. YOU'RE OWN PREPARATION FOR LIFE CONSISTS IN THINGS YOU DO, NOT IN THINGS THAT HAPPEN TO YOU. NOW AND NOT WHEN WE GET OLDER IS THE TIME THAT WE ARE FORMING HABITS THAT WILL DETERMINE WHAT WE DO WHEN WE GET OLDER.
4. PEOPLE WHO ARE VERY COURAGEOUS AND PEOPLE WHO DO GREAT THINGS ARE ABLE TO BE THIS WAY BECAUSE THEY DO THE EVERYDAY LITTLE THINGS COURAGEOUSLY AND VERY WELL. GREAT COWARDS OR PEOPLE WHO DO VERY LITTLE BECOME THAT WAY BECAUSE OF THE LITTLE COWARDICES IN THE WAY THEY DO LITTLE THINGS. FOR EXAMPLE, A PERSON WHO SAYS, "AW, I DON'T WANT TO DO THAT", OR, "I'LL DO IT LATER" WILL NEVER DO ANYTHING OF IMPORTANCE IN THEIR LIFE BECAUSE THEY NEVER LEARNED HOW TO DO LITTLE THINGS WELL.
5. LITTLE THINGS ARE NOT HARD TO DO. EVERYONE CAN DO A LITTLE THING WELL, LIKE TAKING OUT THE GARBAGE. HOW DO WE DO IT WELL? MAYBE BY DOING IT WHEN WE'RE SUPPOSED TO AND BEING NEAT ABOUT IT. IT JUST TAKES CONSTANT EFFORT. THIS IS JUST A LITTLE THING. THERE ARE THOUSANDS OF LITTLE THINGS THAT WE DO EVERY DAY THAT WE CAN DO WELL AND GAIN GOOD HABITS BY DOING THEM.
6. IF A PERSON IS DEPENDABLE IN SMALL JOBS, THEN PEOPLE CAN TRUST HIM FOR LARGE ONES. IF A PERSON TELLS THE TRUTH IN SMALL THINGS, HE WILL BE HONEST AS AN ADULT.
7. EXAMPLES OF LITTLE THINGS: PENMANSHIP, ORDER IN OUR NOTEBOOK, ORDER IN OUR BOOK BAG, SMILING AT PEOPLE WHO BOTHER US, MAKING SURE OUR HOMEWORK IS FINISHED WELL, KEEPING ORDER ON OUR DESK, HANGING OUR CLOTHES AT NIGHT INSTEAD OF THROWING THEM ON A CHAIR, ETC.

Having Good Manners

1. We have to respect everyone. It's our duty to respect everyone, even if they're not our best friends.
2. Good manners are an important sign of respect for others. If we use good manners, we will show a great deal of respect for people and they will be thankful.
3. Having good manners isn't about taking great pains to look perfect or act properly because we want to be cool. That would be doing it for us. We try to show manners because of our concern for others. We don't want to annoy people by our looks or actions.

4. What are some of the important manners?

- When you meet someone, it's important to look at them directly in the eye. It's not right to avoid eye contact by looking away from them or around the room.
- When you shake hands with someone, you should give a firm grip and not a "fish" grip. You should also grip their whole hand and not leave any fingers "floating."
- When talking to someone, we should speak loud enough that they can hear you, not just so you can hear yourself.
- We should always greet people we know, not just people we like, by saying "Hello?" or "How are you?" This shows concern for them. When someone says, "Hello" to you, you should say "Hello" back even if you don't especially care for that person. There's a chance you could get to like them and it helps to say "Hello" even when the person doesn't like you.
- When someone asks you, "How are you?" You should respond with something like, "Fine thanks, how are you?" Again, it's a sign of respect and concern for that person to ask them how they are. Don't respond with just "Fine" or "Good" or "Alright" or "Straight."
- When you make a joke, we should never laugh at people's shortcomings
- Don't talk behind other people's back. Not only is it not nice, but it is a show of cowardice when you talk behind someone's back and it shows others you lack both charity and manners.
- You shouldn't wear your hat inside the building.
- Every day, you should wash your face, brush your teeth, comb your hair, and wash your hands before dinner and after you use the bathroom. We try to look good mostly out of respect for others, not because we want to have people think we're cool.
- At meals, we should show concern for others we're eating with by not hogging food and making sure everyone has enough to eat before we take seconds.
- We should always say "please" when we ask for something and "thank you" when someone gives us something.

Materialism

1. The old saying goes, it's better to give than to receive.
We're happier when we try to make others happy.
We become sad when we think about ourselves too much.
Thinking about ourselves too much includes being selfish with regard to having a lot of things and acting unhappy when we can't get something that we want.

2. (At Christmas time) Now that the Christmas holidays are around the corner, it's good to think of what the events mean, not just the things we're going to get.

3. Some examples of acting materialistically:
 - a. Having to have the most recent toy or game.
 - b. Having to have the most recent and expensive pair of sneakers.
 - c. Acting mean to parents if we can't have something we want.
 - d. Not letting little brothers or sisters use your things.
 - e. Getting mad at somebody or being sad when something breaks by accident.
 - f. Thinking that you have to have the "in" clothes.

4. A person is as good as his virtues (good habits) not as good as his possessions.
Therefore, it's not right to think someone is better than you just because he has more or better things. It may be things as small as shoes, clothes, and toys, to big things like cars, houses, boats, islands, powerful jobs, etc.

5. Remember: People will like us by the way we behave towards them and not by what we have. We're much happier when we share what we have with others even when it means sacrificing some fun on our part.

NEATNESS

1. What does it mean to be neat? Being neat is the opposite of being sloppy and messy. Being neat is similar to being orderly. It is good for all of us to be neat in two basic areas: our appearance (the way we look) and in the appearance of the things we produce (ex. our schoolwork).

2. Why is it important to be neat? It is important for us to be neat because the way we look and the appearance of the things we produce is a reflection of ourselves - a reflection of our character. The people around us get either a good impression or a bad impression of us depending on whether we are neat or messy.

3. Ways we can be neat in our appearance:
 - Make sure we're clean ourselves: hair washed and combed, teeth brushed, face clean, fingernails clipped and clean, etc.
 - Wear clothes that are clean and in good condition
 - Tuck in shirt and tie shoes

4. Ways we can be neat in our schoolwork:
 - Make sure we write neatly with no mistakes. Good penmanship comes with practice.
 - Make sure papers look nice and are not folded or crumpled when we hand them in
 - Keep our homework in folders

5. When we are neat people will be able to say, "Wow, he looks sharp!" rather than, "Wow, look at that slob!" and, "Wow, what a nice looking paper!" instead of "Oh brother, here's another sloppy paper". Being neat doesn't take much time but the rewards are well worth the small effort. First impressions are important (explain) and always come from an appearance - we want to make a good impression by always being neat in our appearance and in the appearance of our work.

ORDER IN SCHEDULE

1. ANY GOAL WILL REQUIRE SPENDING MORE TIME ON THINGS WE DON'T NECESSARILY LIKE TO DO SUCH AS STUDYING, PRACTICING AN INSTRUMENT, ADVENTURE READING, DOING CHORES, ETC.
2. SPENDING TIME ON OUR RESOLUTIONS IS ALWAYS EASIER SAID THAN DONE BECAUSE IT IS HUMAN NATURE TO PUT-OFF THINGS THAT WE ARE SUPPOSED TO DO AND DO THINGS WE WOULD RATHER DO FIRST, LIKE T.V, PLAYSTATION, SPORTS, ETC.
3. IT IS MUCH EASIER TO DO SOMETHING WE DON'T CARE TO DO IF WE PLAN AHEAD AND HAVE A STARTING TIME FOR IT. FOR EXAMPLE, WE DON'T REALLY GET EXCITED ABOUT GOING TO SCHOOL, BUT IT IS A PART OF OUR DAILY PLAN SO IT IS EASY FOR US TO DO IT. IF WE DIDN'T HAVE A SPECIFIC TIME THAT WE HAD TO BE IN SCHOOL, IT WOULD BE MUCH HARDER TO GO BECAUSE WE WOULD KEEP PUTTING IT OFF.
4. THE SAME IS TRUE ABOUT ANYTHING ELSE THAT WE WANT TO DO THAT REQUIRES A LITTLE EFFORT. IF WE DON'T HAVE A SPECIFIC TIME PLANNED, IT WILL NEVER GET DONE. THAT'S WHY IT IS GOOD TO GET INTO THE HABIT OF STARTING HOMEWORK AT A SPECIFIC TIME. GETTING TO BED AT A REGULAR TIME, AND GETTING UP ON TIME. THE SAME THING GOES FOR ANYTHING ELSE WE WOULD LIKE TO DO.
5. THIS PLAN OF YOUR TIME IS CALLED A SCHEDULE. IT IS EASIER TO FOLLOW A SCHEDULE WHEN IT IS WRITTEN DOWN BECAUSE WE CAN REMEMBER WHAT WE HAVE TO DO VERY EASILY.
6. A TO DO LIST IS IMPORTANT TO HAVE FOR EVERY PERSON TO CLARIFY EXACTLY WHAT WE NEED TO GET DONE. A TO DO LIST IS JUST LIKE WRITING DOWN ASSIGNMENTS WE HAVE IN SCHOOL, BUT ALSO FOR EVERYTHING ELSE. WE WILL SAVE A GREAT DEAL OF TIME AND ENERGY IF WE HAVE A LIST OF THINGS TO DO INSTEAD OF DEPENDING ON OUR MEMORY. ALL SERIOUS STUDENTS AND PEOPLE WHO HAVE PROFESSIONAL JOBS USE LISTS.
7. A GOOD PLACE TO WRITE THE SCHEDULE AND TO DO LIST IS IN OUR ASSIGNMENT NOTEBOOK. OUR TUTOR WILL HELP US DEVELOP A SIMPLE WAY TO PLAN THINGS. IT WILL BE EASIER TO KEEP OUR SCHEDULE IF OUR TUTOR HELPS US BY CHECKING IF WE DO IT OR NOT.

ORDER WITH MATERIAL THINGS

1. ORDER WITH OUR PERSONAL BELONGINGS HELPS TO REDUCE CONFUSION, AND INCREASES EFFICIENCY. EFFICIENCY MEANS THE ABILITY TO GET THINGS DONE EASILY AND QUICKLY.
2. EXAMPLE OF A DEPARTMENT STORE. EVERYTHING IS IN ITS PLACE AND NEATLY DISPLAYED. THERE IS A GREAT DEAL OF CLOTHES, ETC. IN THE STORE. BECAUSE IT IS ALL NEATLY KEPT, IT LOOKS ORDERLY. IF IT WERE ALL THROWN AROUND AND IF PEOPLE DIDN'T PUT THINGS BACK WHERE THEY BELONG, IT WOULD BE A GREAT BIG MESS AND THE STORE WOULDN'T DO BUSINESS BECAUSE CUSTOMERS WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO FIND ANYTHING.
3. HOW CAN THIS RELATE TO US? IF WE THROW OUR BOOKS AND NOTES AROUND ANYWHERE, THEY WILL BE DIFFICULT TO FIND WHEN WE WANT TO GET THINGS DONE. WE ALSO SPEND A LOT OF ENERGY TRYING TO FIND THINGS.
4. WHEN SHOULD WE PUT THINGS IN ORDER? IT IS GOOD TO GET INTO THE HABIT OF PUTTING THINGS INTO ORDER AS SOON AS WE USE THINGS, LIKE A WORKER IN A DEPARTMENT STORE OR A LIBRARIAN. FOR EXAMPLE, WHEN WE USE A BOOK, PUT IT BACK ON THE SHELF AND NOT ON THE KITCHEN COUNTER BECAUSE WE WILL FORGET WHERE WE PUT IT OR WILL GET COVERED UP. IT IS GOOD TO USE FOLDERS FOR OUR LOOSE PIECES OF PAPER INSTEAD OF IN PAGES OF BOOKS SO WE WON'T LOSE THEM AND CAN FIND THEM EASILY. IT IS GOOD TO HAVE A PENCIL CASE OR NORMAL PLACE WE PUT THEM SO WE DON'T LOSE THEM.
5. BESIDES SCHOOL THINGS, IT IS GOOD TO TAKE CARE OF OTHER THINGS AS WELL. AS SOON AS WE'RE FINISHED WITH OUR CLOTHES, WE SHOULD HANG OUR CLOTHES OR FOLD THEM NEATLY AND PUT THEM WHERE THEY BELONG INSTEAD OF THROWING THEM AROUND. THIS WAY, THINGS WILL NOT PILE UP IN YOUR ROOM AND YOU WILL LOOK NEATER, AND THE CLOTHES WILL LAST LONGER. WE SHOULD MAKE OUR BED AS SOON AS WE GET UP IN THE MORNING BECAUSE IT'S ALWAYS HARDER TO MAKE IT WHEN WE ARE BUSY LATER ON.
6. WE SHOULD FEEL RESPONSIBLE FOR HELPING OUR MOTHER WITH CHORES IN THE REST OF THE HOUSE. SHE IS NOT SUPPOSED TO BE OUR SERVANT, AND WE MUST CONTRIBUTE TO THE COMMON GOOD OF THE FAMILY, EVEN IF OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS DON'T GIVE US A GOOD EXAMPLE.

PATIENCE

1. PATIENCE IS BEING CALM AND CHEERFUL AND NOT GETTING UPSET WHEN THINGS GO WRONG OR THINGS DON'T GO YOUR WAY. A PERSON WHO LOSES HIS TEMPER OR BECAUSE THINGS DON'T GO THE WAY HE WANTS LACKS PATIENCE.

EXAMPLES:

LACK OF PATIENCE: LOSING TEMPER AT OTHER SPORTS FIELD IF THEY AREN'T AS GOOD AS YOU; WITH PARENTS, WITH BROTHERS OR SISTERS, OR WITH ANYONE WHO MAKES A MISTAKE, TALKING BEHIND ONES BACK WHEN ONE DOESN'T LIKE WHAT ANOTHER IS DOING.

A PATIENT PERSON: DOESN'T LOSE HIS TEMPER BUT IF HE SEES SOMETHING WRONG, HE TALKS TO THE PERSON ALONE IF THE ACTION CAN BE CORRECTED AND IF NOT, HE DOESN'T LET IT BOTHER HIM.

2. PATIENCE ALSO INVOLVES STRIVING TO OBTAIN SOMETHING, WHICH MAY TAKE A LONG PERIOD OF TIME WITHOUT GETTING DISCOURAGED, AND GIVING-UP.

EXAMPLES:

A PATIENT PERSON PREPARES FOR HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE WITH A CONSTANT EFFORT IN HIS STUDYS WITHOUT WORRYING ABOUT THE "GOOD THINGS" HE IS MISSING OUT ON, EVEN WHEN THINGS GET VERY DIFFICULT.

AN IMPATIENT PERSON CANNOT HOLD HIMSELF DOWN FOR ONE HOUR OF STUDY EVERY DAY. WHEN THINGS GET TOUGH OR GET COMPLICATED, HE DOESN'T WANT TO PUT THE EXTRA TIME TO FINISH THE WORK HE HAS STARTED. HE MUST BE CONSTANTLY ENTERTAINED.

3. PATIENCE SOMETIMES REQUIRES A LOT OF FORTITUDE BECAUSE SOMETIMES IT IS VERY DIFFICULT TO BE PATIENT UNDER ADVERSE CIRCUMSTANCES. THE HABIT OF PATIENCE HELPS US TO BE CALM AND THINK CLEARLY UNDER ADVERSE CIRCUMSTANCES.

EXAMPLES:

IT REQUIRES FORTITUDE TO HOLD YOUR TEMPER EVEN WHEN A PERSON MAY BE ANGRY AT YOU FOR NO GOOD REASON, OR IF YOU ARE BEING UNJUSTLY ACCUSED. A PATIENT PERSON DOES NOT TAKE THINGS PERSONALLY WHEN SOMEONE IS ANGRY, BUT THINKS THINGS THROUGH CALMLY AND LOGICALLY.

AN IMPATIENT PERSON AUTOMATICALLY GETS ANGRY WHEN SOMEONE GETS UPSET SO INSTEAD OF THINKING LOGICALLY, HE GETS EMOTIONAL AND TAKES EVERYTHING THAT IS SAID PERSONALLY, THAT IS, THINKING THE PERSON DOESN'T LIKE HIM.

RESPONDING TO PEER PRESSURE

1. PEOPLE INFLUENCE US ALL AROUND US. WHAT WE SEE AND HEAR FROM OTHER PEOPLE INFLUENCES THE WAY WE THINK AND TALK AND ACT. WHO ARE OUR PEERS? PEERS ARE THOSE PEOPLE AROUND US WHO ARE LIKE US. MOST OF ALL OUR CLASSMATES AND FRIENDS AT SCHOOL AND IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD. THESE "PEERS" CAN INFLUENCE US IN A GOOD OR BAD WAY.
2. UNFORTUNATELY, MANY TIMES OUR PEERS CAN OFFER US BAD THINGS TO DO. THIS IS CALLED NEGATIVE PEER PRESSURE. HERE ARE SOME EXAMPLES OF NEGATIVE PEER PRESSURE: TALKING AND BEING DISRUPTIVE IN CLASS; HAVING A BAD ATTITUDE TOWARD SCHOOL (I.E. IT'S NERDY TO STUDY AND BEHAVE WELL IN CLASS); CHEATING ON TESTS (EVERYBODY IS DOING IT AND IT'S EASY TO GET AWAY WITH); STEALING SMALL THINGS FROM THE STORE; SHOWING A LACK OF RESPECT FOR OLDER PEOPLE AND THOSE IN AUTHORITY; TALKING ABOUT GIRLS IN A WAY THAT DOES NOT RESPECT THEIR DIGNITY; ETC.
3. NEGATIVE PEER PRESSURE IS HARD TO RESIST. IT IS HARD TO RESIST BECAUSE WE WANT TO BE LIKE EVERYBODY ELSE, WE WANT TO FIT IN, WE DO NOT WANT TO BE THE ODD BALL. BUT WE MUST CHOOSE WHAT IS RIGHT - OUR CONSCIENCE WILL MAKE THE BAD TEMPTATIONS CLEAR. IT IS HARD TO SAY NO, BUT OUR PEERS WILL ADMIRE US AND RECOGNIZE THAT WE HAVE A STRONG CHARACTER. WE MUST HAVE COURAGE TO SAY NO TO THINGS THAT WE KNOW ARE WRONG. WE MUST GET USED TO SAYING NO NOW WHEN WE ARE RELATIVELY YOUNG BECAUSE TEMPTATIONS TO GIVE IN TO NEGATIVE PEER PRESSURE GET STRONGER AND STRONGER AS WE GET OLDER.
4. WHAT IS POSITIVE PEER PRESSURE? POSITIVE PEER PRESSURE INFLUENCES US TO DO THE RIGHT THING, ESPECIALLY WHEN WE ARE TEMPTED TO DO THE WRONG THING. WE SHOULD ALWAYS LOOK FOR OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE POSITIVE PEER PRESSURE TO OUR FRIENDS. SOME EXAMPLES OF POSITIVE PEER PRESSURE: TELLING OUR FRIENDS IT'S WRONG TO CHEAT ON TESTS, WRONG TO STEAL CANDY BARS, WRONG TO TALK BACK TO THE TEACHER, ETC. MORE IMPORTANTLY, REMEMBER, ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS SO WE CAN GIVE POSITIVE PEER PRESSURE TO OUR FRIENDS MOST OF ALL BY ACTING IN THE APPROPRIATE WAY ALL THE TIME.

PERSEVERANCE AND FORTITUDE

1. YOU CAN TELL THAT YOU'RE GROWN-UP WHEN YOU DO YOUR DUTY AND DO THINGS WELL, EVEN THOUGH THE ENTHUSIASM YOU HAD WHEN YOU STARTED IS GONE. STORY OF THE HARE AND THE TORTOISE.
2. EXAMPLES: A STUDENT HAS TO STUDY EVEN THOUGH HE DOESN'T FEEL LIKE IT. (A GENIUS IS 10% INSPIRATION AND 90% PERSPIRATION). YOUR PARENTS DO THINGS FOR YOU ALL THE TIME EVEN THOUGH THEY DON'T FEEL LIKE IT.
3. PERSEVERANCE IS GETTING THINGS DONE EVEN THOUGH IT STARTS TO GET DIFFICULT. EXAMPLES: IF YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND SOME ASSIGNMENT OR PROBLEM, YOU MUST ASK A PARENT OR TEACHER OR CALL YOUR TUTOR OR LOOK IT UP IN A REFERENCE BOOKS UNTIL YOU UNDERSTAND. YOU SHOULD NOT JUST GIVE-UP. ALSO, WHEN YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND SOMETHING THE TEACHER SAID, YOU SHOULD RAISE YOUR HAND AND ASK OR SEE THE TEACHER AFTER CLASS INSTEAD OF SHUTTING UP TO AVOID LOOKING DUMB.
4. SOMETIMES YOU DON'T SEE WHY YOU HAVE TO DO SOMETHING, BUT YOU KNOW YOU SHOULD DO IT BECAUSE SOMEONE SAID IT WAS GOOD. FOR EXAMPLE, IT'S EASY TO "BLOW-OFF" KEEPING THE ASSIGNMENT NOTEBOOK WHEN IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE WE REALLY NEED TO DO IT. IT TAKES FORTITUDE TO DO THINGS BECAUSE WE KNOW WE'RE SUPPOSED TO EVEN THOUGH IT MAY NOT BE CLEAR, OR WE DON'T FEEL LIKE DOING IT. IT TAKES FORTITUDE TO BREAKAWAY FROM THE TV SET WHEN WE KNOW WE HAVE TO STUDY.
5. FORTITUDE IS A HABIT. WE HAVE TO ATTAIN THE HABIT OF FORTITUDE BY REPEATEDLY DOING THINGS THAT WE DON'T ESPECIALLY FEEL LIKE DOING. FOR EXAMPLE, READING A BOOK WHEN WE FEEL LIKE WATCHING TV AFTER SCHOOL. STUDYING YOUR TOUGHEST HOMEWORK FIRST RATHER THAN LEAVING IT FOR LATER.
6. PEOPLE WHO ARE SUCCESSFUL SUCH AS DOCTORS, LAWYERS, ATHELETES, AND GOOD PARENTS, ARE SUCCESSFUL BECAUSE THEY HAVE THE VIRTUE OF PERSERVERENCE AND FORTITUDE. THEY DID NOT GIVE UP WHEN THINGS GOT TOUGH.
7. WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH, THE TOUGH GET GOING.

PUNCTUALITY

1. WHAT DOES THE WORD PUNCTUALITY MEAN?

IT MEANS BEING ON TIME OR PROMPT. A PUNCTUAL PERSON ARRIVES ON TIME FOR HIS APPOINTMENTS. SOMEONE WHO IS PUNCTUAL THINKS AHEAD. PROMPTNESS MEANS ALLOTING ENOUGH TIME TO GET THERE A LITTLE EARLY JUST IN CASE ANYTHING HAPPENS ON THE WAY THERE.

2. WHAT DOES BEING PUNCTUAL SAY ABOUT US?

IT SAYS THAT WE ARE MATURE AND RESPONSIBLE. ALSO, BEING PROMPT IS A WAY OF TELLING THE PERSON YOU WILL SEE THAT YOU RESPECT HIM. YOU WOULD BE ON TIME TO SEE SOMEONE OF GREAT IMPORTANCE LIKE THE MAYOR. THE CONTRARY IS ALSO TRUE. IF YOU KNOW YOU WILL BE LATE TO OR MISS AN APPOINTMENT, IT IS ALWAYS GOOD TO CALL AHEAD.

3. LET'S IDENTIFY SOME WAYS WE CAN BE PUNCTUAL IN OUR LIVES?

SOME WAYS WE CAN BE PUNCTUAL ARE ARRIVING ON TIME FOR CLASS, CATCHING THE BUS, GETTING UP ON TIME, GOING TO BED ON TIME, STARTING HOMEWORK WHEN WE SHOULD, TURNING OFF TV OR ENDING GAMES WHEN IT'S TIME TO DO SOMETHING ELSE, DOING CHORES WHEN WE SHOULD, ARRIVING AT YOUR FRIENDS HOUSE ON TIME, BEING READY WHEN IT'S TIME TO GO OUT.

4. HOW DOES A LACK OF PUNCTUALITY EFFECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS?

IT MEANS THAT YOU MAY MISS OUT ON SOME IMPORTANT THINGS IN SCHOOL AND AT HOME OR WITH YOUR FRIENDS. A LACK OF PUNCTUALITY IS A BIG DISTRACTION TO A PERSON GIVING A CLASS OR PRESENTATION, AND ALSO INCONVENIENCES PEOPLE WHO ARE WAITING TO SEE US. IT MAY VERY WELL CAUSE OTHER PEOPLE TO BE LATE.

5. HOW WILL BEING PUNCTUAL NOW HELP US IN THE FUTURE?

SOMEONE WHO IS FAITHFUL IN SMALL THINGS WILL BE FAITHFUL IN BIG THINGS. IF WE DEVELOP THIS HABIT EVERYDAY THEN IT WILL BE EASIER TO MAKE REALLY IMPORTANT APPOINTMENTS FOR BIG THINGS LIKE ENTRANCE TESTS, INTERVIEWS, PRESENTATIONS, ETC IN THE FUTURE.

Real Friends vs. Gang Friends

➤ following points compare and contrast Real Friends vs. Friends who maybe in a gang (the numbers under "Real Friends correspond with the numbers under "Gang Friends". The message is that gangs actively recruit little kids who really don't know what they're getting into, because they're friends with someone who is in a gang, or it's cool to be in the gang. After y're in it, they realize that they really have no freedom at all, and the friends who were in the gang merely utilized their friendship to gain an unsuspecting new member.

Real Friends	Gang Friends
Real friends want what is best for their friend. They inspire you to improve. They are happy to see you do well in school and will encourage you to go to college.	1. Gang members are friends, but not good friends because they don't want you to improve, but they do want you to have a bad attitude like them. If you do well in school, they'll call you a sissy.
Real friends won't get each other into trouble.	2. Gang members encourage each other to do things that could get them into trouble.
A friend will not hurt you	3. If you are in a gang and you want to get out of it, they will hurt you.
A friend will not boss you around.	4. If you don't obey the leader of a gang, even when he tells you to do something against the law, the entire gang will bully you.
A friend will inspire you to be good.	5. A gang member will call you a chicken if you try to be good.
You are free to have your own opinion with friends.	6. The gang tells you how to think and what to think about almost everything.
You are independent with friends, and are free to make other friends if you like if you like them.	7. You have to be friends with bad people and you can't choose to make friends with anyone you would like because the gang may not like them.
If you try to make friends who are serious about school and want to improve, then you don't have to worry about being pulled into a gang.	8. If you make friends with bad attitudes about school and don't want to improve but want to be bad, you have to be very careful because they'll probably become involved in a gang.
Good friends don't make "play gangs".	9. Bad friends will make "play gangs" and you may soon realize that the whole "play gang" has gotten swallowed-up into a real gang.
Real friends don't mess around with gangs.	10. Bad friends will do favors for kids in gangs and get "protection" from the gang.
Real friends will tell their parents when they have problems.	11. Gang friends think parents are bad. If you tell them that your parents don't like something that they are doing or If you tell them that you listen to your parents, they'll call you a moma's boy.

RESPECT AND OBEDIENCE OF AUTHORITY

WE MUST OBEY GOD. HE GAVE US OUR PARENTS AND THOSE IN AUTHORITY, THEREFORE, WE MUST ALSO OBEY THEM IN THINGS THAT DON'T GO AGAINST GOD'S LAWS.

WE MUST SHOW RESPECT FOR OUR PARENTS AT ALL TIMES. THEY ARE THE FIRST AND FOREMOST ONES WE MUST RESPECT AND OBEY. NEXT COMES TEACHERS AND PEOPLE WE ARE ENTRUSTED TO BY OUR PARENT

1. WE OWE OUR LIFE TO OUR PARENTS. THEY ALWAYS CARE FOR US AND LOOK-OUT FOR US. THEY LOVE US VERY MUCH SO WE MUST SHOW OUR LOVE FOR THEM, AND THE MOST IMPORTANT WAY TO DO THIS IS TO RESPECT THEM.
2. WHEN THEY GET MAD AT US, THEY ARE ONLY TRYING TO TEACH US A LESSON SO WE WON'T DO STUPID THINGS. WE SHOULD NEVER BECOME RESENTFUL WHEN CORRECTED BECAUSE ONLY UNGRATEFUL PEOPLE ACT LIKE THAT.
3. WE MUST ALSO TRY TO DO POSITIVE THINGS FOR THEM TO MAKE THEIR LIFE MORE PLEASANT. THIS INCLUDES NOT ONLY NOT DOING THINGS THAT WILL MAKE THEM ANGRY, BUT DOING OTHER THINGS ALSO. HERE'S A LIST THAT YOU CAN PICK A FEW FROM.
 1. SPEND TIME TALKING TO THEM AND TALK TO THEM WHEN YOU HAVE A PROBLEM
 2. KEEP YOUR ROOM IN ORDER, ASK PARENTS FOR A CHORE
 3. TELL THEM YOUR SORRY IF YOU UPSET THEM
 4. DON'T ALWAYS ASK FOR THINGS
 5. SAY PLEASE AND THANK YOU MORE OFTEN
 6. TRY TO IMPROVE YOUR MANNERS AT THE TABLE
 7. WORK ON YOUR TEMPER
 8. SMILE MORE
 9. REMEMBER THEIR BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY
4. WE SHOULD MAKE A SPECIAL EFFORT AND GO OUT OF OUR WAY TO BE FRIENDS WITH OUR PARENTS AND OTHER PEOPLE IN OUR FAMILY. WE MUST NOT TAKE THESE PEOPLE FOR GRANTED, BUT TREAT THEM JUST LIKE WE WOULD TREAT OUR BEST FRIEND.

IT DOESN'T MATTER WHETHER OR NOT WE LIKE THAT PERSON OR THE COMMAND THAT PERSON GIVES, WE MUST STILL OBEY A PERSON IN AUTHORITY. I.E. NOT OBEYING A TEACHER BECAUSE HE OR SHE IS WIERD IS NO EXCUSE. ALSO, NOT DOING HOMEWORK OR CHORE WHEN ASKED IS EXAMPLE OF DISOBEDIENCE.

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RESPECT FOR PEOPLE AND PROPERTY

1. IT IS NOT RIGHT TO TAKE OR VANDALIZE THINGS YOU DO NOT OWN. IT HURTS THAT PERSON, BUT IT HURTS YOU MORE AND IT OFFENDS GOD.

2. HOW CAN IT HURT ME IF NOBODY KNOWS THAT I TOOK SOMETHING? FIRST OF ALL, SOMEBODY DOES KNOW, GOD. SECONDLY, EVEN IF NOBODY ELSE KNOWS ABOUT IT, IT HURTS ME BECAUSE I AM LOWERING MY DIGNITY AND HURTING MY CHARACTER. FOR AN EXAMPLE, IF I ROB A BANK, I AM A BANK ROBBER. I HAVE LOWERED MY DIGNITY. IT DOESN'T MATTER IF ANYBODY CATCHES ME. I AM STILL A BANK ROBBER. IF I TAKE SOMEBODY'S PURSE, I AM A PURSE-SNATCHER. IF I TAKE SOMETHING FROM A STORE, I AM A SHOPLIFTER. THESE ARE NOT TITLES OF RESPECT.

3. WHAT IS SO BAD ABOUT TAKING A LITTLE PIECE OF CANDY FROM A STORE? THEY WILL NEVER MISS IT ANYWAY.... WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF EVERYBODY THOUGHT THAT WAY? THEN THE STORE WOULD GO OUT OF BUSINESS, AND A VERY BIG INJUSTICE WOULD BE DONE TO THE OWNER.

4. IF WE TAKE SMALL THINGS, OUR CONSCIENCE BEGINS TO JUSTIFY IT AND WE THINK OF SOME EXCUSES FOR OURSELVES LIKE "THEY ARE SO RICH AND I AM SO POOR", OR, "IT WON'T HURT THEM". WHAT THEN HAPPENS IS WE BEGIN TO GET CONFUSED ABOUT THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN RIGHT AND WRONG. THIS IS HOW WE BEGIN TO RUIN OUR CONSCIENCE. IT THEN BECOMES EASIER TO TAKE BIGGER THINGS. THE BIGGEST CROOKS STARTED BY TAKING SOMETHING VERY SMALL.

5. HOW ABOUT TAKING SOMETHING FROM A FRIEND OR MONEY FROM OUR PARENTS? THIS IS EVEN WORSE BECAUSE IT HURTS OUR DIGNITY EVEN MORE IF WE HURT SOMEBODY WE LOVE. FOR EXAMPLE, IF WE GET INTO A FIGHT AND HIT SOMEBODY, IT IS NOT GOOD BUT IT IS MUCH WORSE IF WE HIT OUR MOTHER OR FATHER, WE OWE EVEN MORE RESPECT TO THEM. IN THE SAME WAY, WHEN WE OFFEND SOMEBODY THAT SHOULD BE SPECIAL TO US, EVEN IF THEY DON'T KNOW ABOUT IT, WE HAVE COMMITTED A MORE SERIOUS OFFENSE. THE SAME THING GOES FOR TAKING SOMETHING THAT SOMEBODY REALLY NEEDS, FOR EXAMPLE, TAKING MONEY FROM A STARVING PERSON.

6. HOW ABOUT VANDALISM? DESTROYING PROPERTY CAN BE MUCH WORSE THAN TAKING SOMETHING BECAUSE IT COSTS VERY MUCH TO REPAIR, EVEN IF IT IS EASY TO RUIN. EXAMPLE, PUNCHING HOLES OR RIPPING BUS SEATS, WRITING-ON OR SCRAPING DESKS OR WALLS, GRAFITTI ON WALLS. WHEN YOU DO THINGS LIKE THIS, IT IS AS BAD AS STEALING MONEY FROM THE PERSON OR ORGANIZATION WHO OWNS IT, AND ALONG WITH IT COMES A LOSS OF YOUR DIGNITY.

7. A PERSON WHO CREATES IS CLEVER. IT REQUIRES NO IMAGINATION TO DESTROY.

SINCERITY AND HONESTY

1. SINCERITY AND HONESTY MEANS TELLING THE TRUTH. IT MEANS OWNING UP TO WHAT YOU ARE, WHAT YOU HAVE DONE OR NOT DONE.
2. MANY TIMES WE WILL HAVE TO STRUGGLE TO BE HONEST BECAUSE IT IS SOMETIMES VERY HARD TO TELL THE TRUTH. THIS COMES FROM OUR NATURAL INCLINATION TO EITHER NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR OUR ACTIONS OR OUR DESIRE TO IMPRESS PEOPLE. HOWEVER, PEOPLE WILL LIKE US MORE IF WE ARE HONEST WITH THEM ABOUT EVERYTHING.
3. THINGS ARE MUCH SIMPLER IF WE ALWAYS TELL THE TRUTH. THINGS ALWAYS GET COMPLICATED IF WE DON'T TELL THE TRUTH. PRESIDENT HARRY TRUMAN SAID THAT IF YOU ALWAYS TELL THE TRUTH, YOU DON'T HAVE TO REMEMBER WHAT YOU TOLD ANYONE. (EXPLAIN) YOU CAN ALWAYS BE YOURSELF AND NOT HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT GETTING CAUGHT IN A LIE.
4. EVEN THOUGH YOU MAY THINK THAT NO ONE WILL KNOW IF YOU TELL A LIE, IT IS STILL WRONG. GOD WILL ALWAYS KNOW AND WILL ALWAYS REWARD YOU FOR YOUR HONESTY.
5. EXAMPLES OF NOT TELLING THE TRUTH: NOT OWNING UP TO BEING HIT IN A DODGEBALL GAME, COPYING THE WORK OF ANOTHER ON A TEST, GIVING EXCUSES FOR NOT DOING ONES HOMEWORK INSTEAD OF SAYING "I JUST DIDN'T DO IT".
6. WE CAN GET INTO THE BAD HABIT OF TAKING THE EASY WAY OUT AND NOT TELLING THE TRUTH WHEN IT GETS A LITTLE HARD TO DO. WE CAN ALSO ACQUIRE THE GOOD HABIT OF ALWAYS TELLING THE TRUTH SO THAT EVEN WHEN IT IS DIFFICULT, BEING HONEST WILL BE EASIER TO DO. PEOPLE WHO ALWAYS TELL THE TRUTH ARE HAPPIER BECAUSE THEY KNOW THAT THEY ARE DOING WHAT IS RIGHT, AND THEY DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THE CONSEQUENCES AND COMPLICATIONS YOU CAN GET INTO WHEN YOU ARE NOT HONEST.
7. IF WE ALWAYS TELL THE TRUTH, EVEN WHEN THE PERSON WE TELL IT TO WILL BE DISAPPOINTED IN US, THAT PERSON WILL KNOW WE ARE TRUSTWORTHY. THIS MEANS THAT HE WILL BE CONFIDENT THAT YOU ARE ALWAYS GOING TO TELL THE TRUTH, EVEN WHEN IT BECOMES DIFFICULT. HE WILL ALSO BE MORE LIKELY TO BECOME YOUR FRIEND RATHER THAN IF YOU TRIED TO APPEAR TO BE GOOD BY NOT TELLING THE TRUTH.

SPORTSMANSHIP

1. WHEN WE PLAY, IT IS GOOD TO TRY AS HARD AS POSSIBLE TO WIN; HOWEVER, WE MUST GIVE SPORTS THE RIGHT PERSPECTIVE. SPORTS ARE GREAT FOR OUR RELAXATION AND ENTERTAINMENT AND THEY CAN TEACH US A GREAT DEAL ABOUT LIFE, BUT THEY ARE NOT AN END IN THEMSELVES.
2. SPORTSMANSHIP IS KEEPING THE RIGHT PERSPECTIVE TOWARDS YOUR TEAMMATES, COACHES, REFEREES, OPPOSING TEAM, AND YOURSELVES. ALSO, IT TEACHES US HOW TO STAY IN CONTROL OF OURSELVES WHEN EMOTIONS RUN HIGH.
3. EXAMPLES OF SPORTSMANSHIP: NOT CHEATING, NOT CRYING, COMPLAINING OR POUTING WHEN WE DON'T GET TO PLAY OR WHEN THINGS GO WRONG ON THE FIELD, NOT TALKING BACK TO REFEREES OR COACHES, CONGRATULATING TEAMMATES AND OPPOSING TEAM WHEN GAME IS OVER NO MATTER IF WE WIN OR LOSE, PASSING THE BALL TO OTHERS AND NOT HOGGING THE GAME, NOT RETALIATING IF SOMEONE GIVES US A CHEAP SHOT, ENCOURAGING AND NOT YELLING AT OTHER PLAYERS.
4. UNFORTUNATELY, WE DO NOT LEARN SPORTSMANSHIP FROM MANY PROFESSIONAL ATHLETES ANYMORE, SO OFTENTIMES WE SHOULD NOT FOLLOW THEIR EXAMPLE.

A Few Study Tips

1. Take notes in class. Write down the important things your teacher says in a spiral notebook. Review what the teacher said after class and if you don't understand anything, ask your teacher before you go home.
2. Write your homework assignments in an assignment notebook. Cross-off homework in your assignment notebook as you complete it.
3. Try to do your homework right when you get home. You'll then have the rest of the evening to do what you want. Don't put off your homework because you'll end up doing it late and either not get it done or do it poorly. You'll also be worried about it all night long. Definitely never watch TV before you do your homework.
4. Never try and do your homework while watching TV. It will take 5 times as long and you won't do it well.
5. Try and do your homework in a quiet, well-lit place. A good place to do it is on the kitchen or dining room table if its quiet because you can sit up in a good chair and spread your books out a little. Always do your homework at a table or desk. Never study on a couch because you'll end-up laying down and falling asleep. If you do it in your room, make sure you don't get distracted with toys. If you have a TV in your room, ask your parents to remove it because it's too much of a temptation, and it will only keep you up late at night.
6. Always do the hardest homework first.
7. Go over your homework that you've done recently to study for a test.

TRUST

1. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO TRUST AND WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

THE DICTIONARY DEFINES TRUST AS “A FIRM BELIEF IN ANOTHER’S HONESTY, RELIABILITY, ETC”. SO HAVING TRUST MEANS HAVING CONFIDENCE THAT SOMEONE OR SOMETHING WILL ACT OR PERFORM THE WAY YOU EXPECT IT TO. AS THE DEFINITION INDICATES, TRUST IS RELATED TO A NUMBER OF OTHER IDEAS LIKE DEPENDABILITY, HOPE, AND CONFIDENCE. TRUST IS ONE OF THE KEY ELEMENTS IN ANY RELATIONSHIP. *WITHOUT TRUST NO RELATIONSHIP IS SOLID AND SECURE.*

2. TO WHAT CAN WE PUT OUR TRUST IN?

WE TRUST NOT ONLY IN PEOPLE BUT IN THINGS. FOR EXAMPLE WE TRUST THAT IF WE BUY A NEW CAR IT WILL NOT FALL APART THE FIRST TIME WE DRIVE IT. WITHOUT THAT BASIC TRUST WE COULD NEVER BE INTERESTED IN BUYING OR USING A CAR. WE TRUST THAT IT WILL DO THE MOST BASIC THING, IT WILL WORK. WITHOUT THIS TRUST WE CAN GO NO FURTHER WITH THE CAR.

3. WHAT BENEFITS DO WE DERIVE WHEN WE TRUST OTHERS?

IN THE SAME WAY, WE NEED A VERY BASIC TRUST IN OTHER PEOPLE. WE TRUST THAT OUR PARENTS LOVE US – WITHOUT THIS CONFIDENCE, WITHOUT THIS HOPE, OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH OUR PARENTS WOULD BE MEANINGLESS. WE TRUST THAT NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, OUR PARENTS WILL LOVE US. THAT GIVES US HOPE AND CONFIDENCE.

4. HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO BUILD THE TRUST OF OTHERS?

WE GAIN THE TRUST OF OTHERS OVER A LONG PERIOD OF TIME. BECOMING TRUSTWORTHY DOESN’T HAPPEN OVER NIGHT. AS WE SAID EARLIER, TRUST IS RELATED TO MANY OTHERS IDEAS/VIRTUES. BY PRACTICING THESE OTHER VIRTUES WE CAN GAIN THE TRUST OF OTHERS.

5. WHAT ARE SOME WAYS TO GAIN THE TRUST OF OTHERS?

- BEING HONEST
- ADMITTING WHEN WE’RE WRONG
- BEING RESPONSIBLE
- SHOWING UP WHEN WE’RE SUPPOSED TO
- KEEPING OUR WORD
- TELLING OTHERS THAT WE TRUST THEM, ESPECIALLY FRIENDS AND SIBLINGS
- WHAT ARE OTHER WAYS WE CAN GAIN THE TRUST OF FRIENDS AND FAMILY?

VACATION TIME

- 1) IN A COUPLE OF WEEKS OR SO YOU'LL BE FINISHED WITH SCHOOL. EVERYBODY LOOKS FORWARD TO VACATION BECAUSE OF THE AMOUNT OF FREE TIME WE WILL HAVE. HOWEVER, BECAUSE WE ONLY HAVE A LIMITED AMOUNT OF TIME IN OUR LIVES, WE MUST USE IT WISELY. BESIDES, WE WILL HAVE MUCH MORE FUN IF WE PLAN THINGS FOR OUR VACATION TIME AND ENGAGE OUR MINDS IN USEFUL ACTIVITIES INSTEAD OF LYING AROUND, JUST WATCHING TV OR PLAYING COMPUTER GAMES.
- 2) WE NEED TO SET GOALS FOR OURSELVES DURING THE SUMMER (WINTER). SOME GOOD GOALS COULD BE TO LEARN HOW TO SWIM OR ICE SKATE, LEARN HOW TO PLAY AN INSTRUMENT, READ SEVERAL BOOKS, KEEP A JOURNAL OR LEARN A HOBBY. WE MUST THINK OF GOALS FOR OURSELVES OR ELSE WE WON'T ACCOMPLISH ANYTHING. OUR TUTOR CAN HELP US THINK OF SOME FUN GOALS FOR THE VACATION.
- 3) AFTER WE SET UP OUR GOALS, WE NEED TO LIVE A SCHEDULE DURING THE VACATION TIME SO THAT WE WILL ACHIEVE THE GOALS. FOR INSTANCE, I'M GOING TO GET UP AT A CERTAIN TIME EACH DAY. THEN I'LL FIRST DO MY CHORES AND GO SWIMMING OR SKATING OR PRACTICE ON THE INSTRUMENT EVERY MORNING, THEN READ FOR TWO HOURS IN THE AFTERNOON. SOME DAYS, I CAN CALL MY FRIENDS AND MAYBE PLAY A GAME WITH THEM.
- 4) WE SHOULD ALSO THINK OF WAYS TO BE USEFUL AROUND THE HOUSE. FOR INSTANCE, YOU CAN OFFER YOUR HELP TO YOUR MOTHER. SAY, "MOM, WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU TODAY" INSTEAD OF TURNING ON THE TV WHEN YOU DON'T HAVE ANYTHING ELSE TO DO.
- 5) BEFORE YOU GO, MAKE SURE YOUR TUTOR GIVES YOU THE TITLES OF SOME GOOD BOOKS TO READ. ASK HIM TO CALL YOU DURING VACATION SOMETIMES TO SEE WHAT YOU'RE UP TO. GET HIS PHONE NUMBER AND GIVE HIM A CALL. BE SURE TO GET HIS ADDRESS SO THAT YOU CAN WRITE TO HIM ONCE AND A WHILE.
- 6) CONCLUSION: WE ONLY HAVE A LIMITED AMOUNT OF TIME IN OUR LIVES AND THEREFORE WE SHOULD TRY TO USE IT WISELY. OUR VACATION TIME IS MORE ENJOYABLE IF WE SPEND OUR FREE TIME ENGAGED IN USEFUL ACTIVITIES RATHER THAN WASTING IT. SETTING GOALS AND MAKING A DAILY SCHEDULE WILL HELP US TO MAKE GOOD USE OF OUR TIME. WE CAN ALSO BE A BIG HELP TO OUR PARENTS.

WESTPOINT AND FAITH

1. EVEN THOUGH THE ORGANIZATION THAT DIRECTS THE SPIRITUAL DIMENSION OF MIDTOWN IS CATHOLIC, THIS IS NOT A CATHOLIC CLASS. TODAY'S TALK IS A CLASS IN COMMON SENSE FOR EVERYONE, NOT JUST CATHOLICS.

2. THE WESTPOINT MILITARY ACADEMY STRONGLY ENCOURAGES ALL OF THEIR CADETS (THEIR STUDENTS) TO PRACTICE THEIR FAITH. THE GOVERNMENT MENTIONS GOD IN THINGS LIKE COINS WHICH SAY "IN GOD WE TRUST". WHY DO THEY DO THIS? BECAUSE THEY REALIZE HOW IMPORTANT GOD IS IN PEOPLES LIVES, AND WE MUST TAKE GOD SERIOUSLY BY PRACTICING OUR FAITH.

3. IF A PERSON DOESN'T PRACTICE HIS FAITH, HE IS MISSING SOMETHING EXTREMELY IMPORTANT IN HIS LIFE. IT'S LIKE A PERSON WHO'S ONLY INTERESTED IN SPORTS AND NOT ACADEMICS TOO OR IF WE ONLY ATE MEAT WITHOUT ANY VEGETABLES. IF WE OVERLOOK OUR FAITH, WE ARE MISSING ANOTHER DIMENSION IN OUR LIVES THAT WE SHOULD HAVE. WE LEARN A GREAT DEAL ABOUT MORALS WHEN WE TRY TO LIVE OUR FAITH. WE ALSO LEARN THAT WE ARE HERE FOR ONLY A VERY SHORT TIME COMPARED WITH ETERNITY.

4. ALMOST EVERYBODY BELIEVES IN GOD, BUT MOST PEOPLE DON'T THINK THAT IT'S IMPORTANT TO PRAY, GO TO CHURCH, AND LEARN ABOUT ONE'S FAITH. LIKE EVERYTHING ELSE THAT WE LEARN IN THE CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT TALKS IN THE TUTORING PROGRAM, A PERSON OF CHARACTER'S ACTIONS HAVE TO BE CONSISTENT WITH THE THINGS WE LEARN. FOR EXAMPLE, WHEN WE TALKED ABOUT THE GOOD HABIT OF BEING HONEST, BUT DON'T TRY TO BE HONEST, WE WOULD BE INCONSISTENT WITH OUR BELIEFS. THIS IS THE DEFINITION OF BEING PHONEY AND NOT A PERSON OF CHARACTER. IF WE BELIEVE IN GOD, THEN WE MUST TAKE GOD SERIOUSLY AND PRACTICE OUR FAITH.

5. WE HAVE TO LOOK AT GOD LIKE A BUSINESSMAN LOOKS TOWARD FUTURE INVESTMENTS. THE LENGTH OF OUR LIVES COMPARED TO ETERNITY IS MUCH SMALLER THAN A DROP IN THE OCEANS. IF WE DON'T SET OUR LIVES ACCORDING TO HIS COMMANDMENTS THAT HE SET OUT FOR US, THEN WE CAN HAVE SOME FUN FOR A VERY SHORT TIME BUT THEN SPEND THE REST OF ETERNITY IN MISERY. ANY BUSINESSMAN WOULD AGREE THAT THE INVESTMENT OF EFFORT IN PRACTICING ONE'S FAITH IS WORTH THE RETURN OF BEING HAPPY FOREVER IN ETERNITY.

6. THE ONLY WAY TO LEARN TO APPRECIATE GOD IN OUR LIVES FULLY IS TO PRACTICE OUR FAITH; I.E., TAKING IT SERIOUSLY, GOING TO CHURCH EACH WEEK, STUDYING IT, TRYING TO PUT IT INTO PRACTICE IN OUR DAILY LIVES. WE LEARN MORALITY (THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN RIGHT AND WRONG) BY LEARNING THE TEN COMMANDMENTS AND BY TALKING TO GOD PERSON TO PERSON WHICH IS CALLED PRAYING.

WHY STUDY AND WHY TRY TO DO WELL IN SCHOOL?

1. WHAT IS THE DEFINITION OF MATURITY? YOU'VE OFTEN HEARD PEOPLE TELL YOU TO ACT MATURE, WHICH MEANS TO BEHAVE RESPONSIBLY LIKE A GROWN-UP, AND NOT LIKE A BABY WHO ALWAYS NEEDS SOMEONE ELSE TO CARE FOR HIM. A PERSON WHO ACTS IMMATURELY OR FOOLISHLY IS ONLY LOOKING OUT FOR HIS FUN TODAY, WHEREAS A MATURE PERSON LOOKS FORWARD TOWARD THE FUTURE AND SACRIFICES THE FUN OF TODAY FOR THE BETTER THINGS OF TOMORROW. A MATURE PERSON ALSO LOOKS OUT FOR OTHER PEOPLE AND TRIES HELP THEM.
2. WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO WHEN WE GROW-UP? HOPEFULLY, WHAT WE DO IN THE FUTURE WILL BE TO SERVE (OR HELP) AS MANY PEOPLE AS POSSIBLE THROUGH OUR PROFESSION. DOCTORS HELP PEOPLE GET WELL. BANKERS HELP PEOPLE WITH BUSINESS. LAWYERS HELP PEOPLE TO KNOW THEIR RIGHTS AND DUTIES IN THE LAW. POLITICIANS HELP PEOPLE BY REPRESENTING THEM IN GOVERNMENT. SCIENTISTS AND ENGINEERS HELP PEOPLE BY PROVIDING TECHNOLOGY TO IMPROVE OUR STANDARD OF LIVING. ALL HAD TO STUDY AND DO WELL IN SCHOOL.
3. THE MORE RESPONSIBLE A PERSON IS, THE MORE HE CAN HELP PEOPLE. FOR EXAMPLE, A PERSON WHO WORKS ON A GARBAGE TRUCK CAN BE A VERY RESPONSIBLE AND CONSCIENTIOUS GARBAGE MAN, AND HELP PEOPLE LIVE BETTER, BUT A PERSON WHO IS THE PRESIDENT OF THE GARBAGE PICK-UP COMPANY CAN HELP MORE PEOPLE BY INSTALLING BETTER WAYS OF PICK-UP, BY HELPING HIS EMPLOYEES' FAMILIES BY PAYING HIS EMPLOYEES A JUST WAGE, BY HELPING THE ENVIRONMENT BY KNOWING AND USING GOOD TECHNOLOGY TO GET RID OF THE GARBAGE, ETC.
4. WE HAVE THE DUTY TO REACH THE POTENTIAL OF THE TALENTS THAT GOD HAS GIVEN US. IF WE DO NOT, THEN WE WON'T BE HAPPY BECAUSE WE WILL KNOW THAT WE COULD HAVE DONE MORE. FOR EXAMPLE, IF WE KNOW THAT WE HAVE THE ABILITY TO PLAY IN THE BASKETBALL GAME BUT HAVE NOT LEARNED THE PLAYS, OUR COACH CANNOT PLAY US IN THE GAME. WE THEREFORE WILL BE EXTREMELY SAD, ESPECIALLY BECAUSE WE KNOW THAT WE HAVE THE ABILITY TO DO WELL. THE SAME IS TRUE OF THE INTELLECTUAL AND CREATIVE TALENTS WHICH GOD HAS GIVEN US. IF WE DO NOT STUDY SO THAT WE CAN USE OUR TALENTS TO DO ALL THAT WE CAN DO, WE WILL NOT BE AS HAPPY AS IF WE DID, AND WE WILL NOT GET THE JOB WE WANT WHICH IS JUST LIKE NOT GETTING TO PLAY FOR NOT KNOWING THE PLAYS.
5. THE REASON THAT WE HAVE TO STUDY ESPECIALLY HARD NOW IS BECAUSE BY STUDYING, WE ARE DEVELOPING SKILLS AND LEARNING CONCEPTS WHICH WILL HELP US UNDERSTAND MORE DIFFICULT CONCEPTS LATER. GRADES IN SCHOOL ARE A MEASURE OF HOW WELL WE ARE ABLE TO UNDERSTAND CONCEPTS WE LEARN IN CLASS. THE ONLY WAY TO UNDERSTAND THESE CONCEPTS IS BY STUDYING AND DOING OUR HOMEWORK WELL.
6. IF WE DO NOT DO WELL IN SCHOOL NOW, IT WILL BE VERY HARD TO UNDERSTAND THINGS THAT ARE MORE DIFFICULT BECAUSE WE WILL HAVE TO LEARN TWICE AS MUCH (FIRST, THE CONCEPTS THAT WE DID NOT LEARN FROM BEFORE THAT ARE NEEDED TO LEARN THE NEW MATERIAL, AND SECOND, THE NEW MATERIAL), BUT LEARNING DIFFICULT CONCEPTS WILL BE EASY IF WE HAVE THE FOUNDATION FOR DOING SO. THE FOUNDATION IS MADE UP OF THINGS WE SHOULD HAVE LEARNED PREVIOUSLY.
7. IF WE ARE SUCCESSFUL IN GRADE SCHOOL, THEN WE CAN GET INTO A GOOD HIGH SCHOOL. IF WE ARE SUCCESSFUL IN A GOOD HIGH SCHOOL, THEN WE CAN GET INTO A COLLEGE. IF WE ARE SUCCESSFUL IN SCHOOL, THEN WE CAN GET A JOB WHERE WE CAN BE OF SERVICE TO VERY MANY PEOPLE, AND CHANCES ARE, WE WILL BE REWARDED WELL FOR OUR WORK.

SUMMARY:

A MATURE PERSON SACRIFICES SOME FUN OR COMFORT IN THE PRESENT IN ORDER TO HAVE A BETTER FUTURE FOR HIMSELF AND THE ONES HE LOVES. HE ALSO LOOKS OUT FOR OTHERS.

ALL OF US WILL HELP OTHERS IN SOME WAY THROUGH OUR PROFESSION. WE HELP OTHERS IN PROPORTION TO HOW WELL WE KNOW OUR PROFESSION. THEREFORE, KNOWLEDGE IS VERY IMPORTANT. SO WE MUST BE RESPONSIBLE IN THE MANNER WE ACQUIRE KNOWLEDGE.

THE MORE RESPONSIBLE WE ARE THE MORE WE CAN HELP OTHERS.

STUDYING HARD NOW WILL ALLOW US TO UNDERSTAND MORE DIFFICULT CONCEPTS LATER.

WE HAVE THE DUTY TO DEVELOP ALL THE TALENTS GOD HAS GIVEN US. IF WE DEVELOP THE TALENTS THAT GOD HAS GIVEN US, WE WILL BE VERY HAPPY.

WHY ARE WE COMING HERE TO MIDTOWN?

1. WE ARE COMING TO MIDTOWN BECAUSE WE WANT TO IMPROVE. TO LEARN HOW TO IMPROVE IN BOTH SCHOOL AND ALSO TO BE A BETTER PERSON.

2. THE TUTORS WENT THROUGH THE SAME THINGS YOU ARE FACING NOW, SO DON'T BE AFRAID TO TELL THEM ANYTHING BECAUSE THEY CAN HELP YOU WITH PROBLEMS IN YOUR SCHOOL WORK AND ALSO OTHER PROBLEMS YOU MAY HAVE.

3. ALL OF THE BEST ATHLETES IN THE WORLD HAVE ONE THING IN COMMON. THEY ALL HAVE COACHES. A BASKETBALL TEAM WOULD BE TERRIBLE IF IT TRIED TO PLAY WITHOUT A COACH. SO WOULD A TRACK STAR.

THINK OF YOUR TUTOR AS YOUR COACH. HE WILL HELP YOU BUT YOU HAVE TO LISTEN TO HIM AND TRY TO DO WHAT HE SUGGESTS.

4. WHY IS IT GOOD TO HAVE A COACH IN ACADEMICS? ANY TEAM OR COMPETITOR WHO TAKES THEIR SPORT SERIOUSLY WOULD NOT BE AS GOOD AS THEY COULD IF THEY DIDN'T HAVE COACHES; AND WE WANT TO TAKE OUR ACADEMICS SERIOUSLY.

DID YOU EVER HEAR YOURSELF ON A TAPE RECORDER? IT SOUNDS DIFFERENT, LIKE WE'VE NEVER HEARD OUR VOICE BEFORE. YOUR TUTOR IS LIKE A TAPE RECORDER. HE WILL SEE THINGS THAT WE WON'T SEE IN OURSELVES, AND THEN THEY HELP US BY POINTING THEM OUT TO US AS FRIEND TO FRIEND.

5. EVERY WEEK, WE WILL HAVE SMALL GOALS OR RESOLUTIONS THAT THE TUTOR WILL GIVE US. THEY WILL BE WRITTEN DOWN ON THE ALL-STAR GOAL SHEET. EACH WEEK WE MUST BRING THE FOLLOWING:

1. OUR ALL-STAR GOAL SHEET WITH YOUR PARENT SIGNATURE. NO ALL-STAR SHEET WILL BE ACCEPTED WITHOUT A SIGNATURE. EVERY STUDENT WILL HAVE A MIDTOWN FOLDER WHICH WILL CONTAIN THE STUDENT'S ALL-STAR SHEETS AND COPIES OF THEIR REPORT CARDS AND TEST SCORES.

2. YOUR SCHOOL FOLDER(S), ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADED TESTS.

3. BOOKS - STUDENTS SHOULD BE REMINDED TO BRING BOOKS OF THEIR WEAKEST SUBJECT, EVEN IF WE DON'T HAVE HOMEWORK.

WILL POWER VS. THE T.V.

1. WILL POWER IS THE ABILITY TO ACCOMPLISH THINGS BY OVERCOMING OBSTACLES IF NECESSARY. IT IS OUR ABILITY TO PUT EFFORT INTO THINGS. THIS WOULD INCLUDE FINISHING BOTH BIG THINGS LIKE COLLEGE, AND LITTLE THINGS LIKE HOMEWORK, STUDYING, DOING CHORES, FINISHING A BOOK, ACQUIRING A HOBBY, LEARNING HOW TO PLAY A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT WELL, LEARNING HOW TO PLAY A SPORT WELL, ETC.
2. IF A PERSON DOES NOT HAVE WILL POWER, THEN HE DOESN'T HAVE THE HABIT OF PUTTING MUCH EFFORT INTO DOING THINGS AND HE PROBABLY WILL ALWAYS TAKE THE EASY WAY OUT OF DOING MOST THINGS. FOR INSTANCE, HE WILL PUT OFF HOMEWORK FOR THE SMALLEST EXCUSE.
3. IF A PERSON DEVELOPS A STRONG WILL, HE WILL BE ABLE TO GET MANY THINGS DONE IN A RELATIVELY SHORT AMOUNT OF TIME, AND WILL DEVELOP MANY HOBBIES AND INTERESTS. PEOPLE WITH A STRONG WILL USUALLY HAVE A VERY STRONG CHARACTER AND HIGH IDEALS AND CAN BECOME LEADERS BECAUSE THEY HAVE USED THEIR TIME WISELY TO LEARN NEW THINGS AND DEVELOP FRIENDSHIPS INSTEAD OF WASTING THEIR TIME.
4. HOW DO WE DEVELOP A STRONG WILL? WE DO IT JUST LIKE AN ATHLETE DEVELOPS A STRONG BODY. LITTLE BY LITTLE. BY TRYING TO USE OUR FREE TIME BETTER AND BETTER INSTEAD OF WASTING IT. HOW CAN WE WASTE OUR FREE TIME? BY DOING NOTHING OR BY WATCHING TOO MUCH T.V. OR PLAYING PLAYSTATION OR NINTENDO 64 WHICH IS THE SAME AS DOING NOTHING.
5. TELEVISION IS NOT A BAD THING WHEN USED PROPERLY FOR A BIT OF ENTERTAINMENT SOMETIMES. HOWEVER, WHEN A PERSON WATCHES TOO MUCH T.V., IT CAN BE THE BIGGEST OBSTACLE TO DEVELOPING WILL POWER BECAUSE IT CAN MAKE A PERSON VERY LAZY. WHY? WATCHING T.V. DOESN'T REQUIRE ANY EFFORT. WE CAN GET INTO THE BAD HABIT OF NOT USING ANY EFFORT. THEN IT WILL BE HARD TO PUT EFFORT INTO THINGS WE ARE SUPPOSED TO. MOST OF THE TIME, PEOPLE AUTOMATICALLY TURN ON THE TELEVISION IF THEY HAVE NOTHING ELSE TO DO INSTEAD OF READING A BOOK, OR DOING A HOBBY, OR DOING SOME CHORES WHICH ARE CONSTRUCTIVE WAYS TO RELAX.
6. THINGS TO DO INSTEAD OF WATCHING T.V.: ASK MOM OR DAD IF YOU CAN HELP THEM OUT BY DOING A CHORE OR HELP THEM WITH A PROJECT, READ ADVENTURE BOOKS, LEARN A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT, LEARN A FOREIGN LANGUAGE, LEARN HOW TO DRAW, LEARN HOW TO PAINT, LEARN HOW TO FIX THINGS, LEARN HOW TO MAKE THINGS FROM WOOD OR OTHER THINGS, LEARN HOW TO INVENT THINGS, LEARN ELECTRONICS, BUILD MODELS, PLAY GAMES WITH YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS, PLAY SPORTS, ETC, ETC, ETC.

Assessment of Strengths & Weaknesses

<u>Lack</u>					<u>Virtue</u>					<u>Excess</u>										
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
Disobedience					Obedience					Blind										
Bad attitude toward authority? Needs to be told repeatedly? Ignores advice? Listens well? Says yes without listening or understanding request?																				
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
Dishonesty					Sincerity/Honesty					Tactless										
Holds things back or tells what you want to hear or gets overly complicated? Obeys rules or cheats if no one is watching? Lack of thinking in speech. Rude?																				
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
Slob					Orderliness					Finicky										
Papers in folder or crushed in book bag? Uses assignment notebook? Always late or on time? Lives a schedule? Room neat? Does mother or he make bed and clean?																				
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
Unfair					Sportsmanship					Not Competitive										
Dominate the game selfishly? Complains about coaches, teammates, and refs? Respects other team? Over-inflated? Quitter? Participates in the sports activities?																				
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
Disrespectful					Respect for People					Awe										
Use magic words? Manners? Learns names and addresses by name? Respects mom, dad, authority? Heroes? Responds to questions? Eye contact? Afraid of adults?																				
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
Loner					Friendship					Need to Be Popular										
Goes out of way to help you and others? Content w/ being alone? Makes friends? Tries to learn names? Good or bad friends? Understands trap of gangs?																				
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
Vandal					Respect for Property					Fastidious										
Understand it's wrong to steal or break windows, etc, even from rich? Graffiti's? Treats clothes & books, etc., well? Upset if something lost or breaks?																				
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
Short Temper					Patience					Indifference										
Looses temper or quits when things go wrong? Understanding of others defects? Has to have attention right away? Overly concerned or doesn't care about problems?																				
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
Lazy					Industriousness					Workaholic										
Addicted to TV, Nintendo? Wastes time? Has hobbies or extra curricular activities? Team sports? Interested in awards? Spirit of service or serve me?																				
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
Melancholy					Cheerfulness					Frivolous										
Large mood swings? Gets sour when things go wrong? Smiles? Sociable? Optimistic? Always goofing off? Can't speak seriously about anything?																				
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
Critical					Trust					Foolhardy										
Prejudicial attitude toward any race, nationality, or personality? Uses facts or emotion? Listens to all sides of story? Understands what gossip is? Listens to gossip?																				
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
Self Excusing					Responsible					Indispensable										
Blames others or circumstances, lots of excuses? Is a good or bad student? Mature outlook towards helping-out and righting mistakes? Others can't do as well as I?																				
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
Cowardice					Fortitude					Reckless										
Optimistic or pessimistic facing problem? Quits or gives-up easily? Confident when facing task? Looks for solutions? Underestimates work load? Foresees problems?																				
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
Pride					Humility					Timidity										
Over-sensitive to being corrected? Over-inflated or bad opinion of talents? Realistic or exaggerated view of events with respect to self? Willingness to improve?																				
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
Stinginess					Generosity					Irresponsibility										
Spends a lot of money on self or image? Gets upset if asked for help? Shares or lets others use things? Places friendships over things? Give things away w/o caring?																				
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
Contempt					Charity					Flattery/Leniency										
Gossips? Hates or holds grudges against anyone? Gets others into trouble? Willing to apologize and show gratitude? Wants to help others? Looking for approval?																				
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
Extreme Individualist					Teamwork					Overly Dependent										
Overconfident or lacks confidence? Cooperative or contrary? Wants to do everything alone or can't do anything alone? Excessive socializing at work?																				
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
Unprepared					Study					Over Zealous										
Understands why and how to study? Blocks off enough time or procrastinates? Is there a love of learning? Overly concerned about grades?																				
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
Unkempt					Health/Neatness					Vanity										
Hygiene habits: showering, brushing teeth, washing, combing hair. Clothes: hat and jacket in building, not tucked, wrinkled. Posture. Eating, sleeping habits?																				
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
Dull/Apathetic					Communication & Curiosity					Boisterous/Nosy										
Does he ask questions? Is there an intellectual curiosity? Does he ask why? Is he afraid to raise his hand in class? Does he maintain eye contact?																				
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
Skepticism					Religion					Superstition										
Prays daily or forgets about God? Goes to church? Does what God wants? Wants to learn? Is God ultimate good and end? Friends with God? Thanks God or luck?																				
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
Self Indulgent					Temperate					Prudish										
Lives modesty in speaking? Regards sex with a great deal of respect? Eats moderately or glutton? Seeks total pleasure or has self-mastery? Can relax and have fun?																				

