

Valuable Lessons



When adults praise a child 0) trying, despite unacceptable work, they teach that 1) is more important than results. I once took 2) a class in the middle of a term from a teacher who was a 3) marker. After I had returned a batch of marked papers, one boy complained 4) receiving a 'C'. "I'm 5) to getting 'As'" he said. When I explained that his essay was badly 6), he asked: "What about the pictures? Our other teacher gave extra 7) for effort."

Real life seldom 8) those who try but don't get results. And it's a rare boss who tolerates an employee who insists that he 9) his best. Unmerited praise may keep children from 10) their own true capabilities.

Years ago, my best friend was a naturally 11) musician. Her family saw every effort as 'brilliant' but she hated practising and often did badly at recitals. After one particularly embarrassing performance, her mother said, "You were wonderful, but that piano needs tuning and the audience was so noisy, it's no 12) you forgot the second movement" Had this girl 13) criticism, she might have realised her dreams of a concert career. As it was, her playing got gradually worse, she lost 14) and eventually 15) out of music school.

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|----|-------------|--------------|------------|-------------|
| 0 | A for | B on | C by | D through |
| 1 | A try | B attempt | C trial | D effort |
| 2 | A up | B over | C out | D down |
| 3 | A light | B giving | C generous | D tender |
| 4 | A about | B for | C with | D by |
| 5 | A familiar | B used | C adapted | D keen |
| 6 | A expressed | B fixed | C made | D organised |
| 7 | A marks | B grades | C notes | D scores |
| 8 | A awards | B merits | C rewards | D grants |
| 9 | A made | B did | C put | D went |
| 10 | A realising | B succeeding | C gaining | D meeting |
| 11 | A worthy | B deserved | C capable | D gifted |
| 12 | A doubt | B shame | C wonder | D joke |
| 13 | A explained | B offered | C given | D received |
| 14 | A interest | B energy | C motive | D attention |
| 15 | A fell | B went | C passed | D dropped |