UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

Friends: The Good, the Bad, and the Indifferent

Exploring Friendships

Friendship plays an important role in our lives, and different friends show different characteristics. Some friends bring out the best in us, while others may cause stress or confusion. There are also people who remain neutral, neither close nor harmful. Understanding these types of friendships helps us choose the people we trust and rely on.

Friends Who Help

Good friends show loyalty, kindness, and honesty. They support us when we face challenges, and they celebrate our achievements. For example, a good friend might help you study for an important test or encourage you when you feel nervous about a presentation. You trust these friends because they care about your well-being and never try to take advantage of you.

Challenges in Friendships

Some friendships can be difficult or unhealthy. A bad friend might act jealous when something good happens to you, or they may ignore you when you need help. They might also take advantage of your kindness by asking for favours but never offering help in return. For example, a friend who only calls you when they need something, but disappears when you need support, shows negative characteristics that can hurt your confidence.

Polite, But Not Close

Indifferent friends are neither especially good nor bad. They are usually classmates, neighbours, or people you know socially but do not feel close to. These friends are polite and friendly, but they are not the people you turn to for advice or emotional support. For example, you might chat with an indifferent friend about school or weekend plans, but you would not expect deep trust or loyalty in this relationship.

Looking Back at What Matters

In the end, friendships can be positive, negative, or indifferent. Good friends offer loyalty and support, bad friends may ignore or take advantage of us, and indifferent friends remain neutral in our lives. Understanding these characteristics helps us build strong, healthy friendships with people we trust and distance ourselves from those who may hold us back.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

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A Questions

1. **What characteristics does the text say a good friend should have?**
   A. Jealousy and indifference
   B. Loyalty, kindness, and honesty
   C. Ignoring others and taking advantage
   D. Being quiet and shy

2. **What example does the writer give of a good friend helping someone?**
   A. Never replying to messages
   B. Helping you study for a test or encouraging you when you are nervous
   C. Becoming jealous of your success
   D. Preferring to stay alone

3. **What behaviour shows that a friend might be bad?**
   A. Sharing hobbies with you
   B. Caring about your well-being
   C. Feeling jealous or taking advantage
   D. Supporting you in class

4. **What is an example the text gives of a bad friend?**
   A. Only calling you when they need something
   B. Helping you with homework
   C. Using your notes without thanking you
   D. Not listening to you

5. **According to the text, what would you NOT expect with an indifferent friend?**
   A. Being polite
   B. Being friendly
   C. Occasional chats
   D. Deep trust and loyalty

6. **According to the text, what's an example of how you may know indifferent friends?**
   A. classmates and neighbours
   B. family
   C. Your best friend
   D. Close friends

7. **According to the text, what can a bad friend make us feel?**
   A. Confidence
   B. Stress and confusion
   C. Nervousness
   D. Kindness

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