

Name: _____

Birth date (MM/DD/YY) _____

General instructions

Thank you for agreeing to help us develop a measure about how high school students reason about social issues. This questionnaire packet should take about 45 minutes to complete. Your careful consideration of each story and the questions/items that follow is greatly appreciated!

Please note that participation is strictly voluntary and you may stop at any time. Also note that your responses will be kept strictly confidential. Your name will never be used in describing the results-only group data will be presented.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the questionnaire administrator.

Questions about social issues

Example and instructions

In this questionnaire, you will read seven stories and respond to questions that follow each story. Please read this example before completing the questionnaire. For each story you are asked to think about the main person in the story. Consider the following example:

Bob's favorite uncle recently died and left Bob and his family a lot of money. Bob now must make some decisions about how the money should be used. Bob and his wife have gone to see a financial counselor and received a lot of information about how to best use the money. One suggestion is to pay off some debt. Other suggestions are to develop trust funds for their children to take care of their educational needs. Bob also thinks about how tough life has been for the family—saving and scrimping to live in a good area of town—and would love to have some fun with part of the money. He thinks about a new car, a cruise, or a trip to a resort.

Following each story you will be presented with a number of choices that someone could select in order to deal with the situation. For each choice, you will be asked to rate how good it is using the following scale:

- 1 – I strongly believe that this is a GOOD choice**
- 2 – I believe that this is a GOOD choice**
- 3 – I am not sure**
- 4 – I believe that this is a BAD choice**
- 5 – I strongly believe that this is a BAD choice**

The following are examples of choices that you might think about:

- _____ 1. Bob should spend the money on himself.
- _____ 2. Bob should invest the money.
- _____ 3. Bob should pay off debt.
- _____ 4. Bob should spend the money on his family

Your job is to rate each solution using the scale above. For example, someone might feel that number one is a terrible choice for Bob, that number two is questionable, that number three is a great solution, and that number four is a pretty good choice. Therefore, number one would be rated with a 4, number two with a 5, number three with a 1, and number four with a 2.

Following this, you will be asked to rank the best and worst choices. For instance, one might say that number three is the best reason and number one is the worst reason.

Next, you will be asked to consider a number of reasons someone might consider in making a choice. Specifically, you will be asked to judge each reason on the following scale:

- 1 – I strongly believe that this is a GOOD reason.**
- 2 – I believe that this is a GOOD reason.**
- 3 – I am not sure.**
- 4 – I believe that that this is a BAD reason.**
- 5 – I strongly believe that this is a BAD reason.**

The following are examples of reasons that you might see:

- _____ 1. Being out of debt is the only way to begin making and saving money.
- _____ 2. Bob will feel better about himself as a family provider.
- _____ 3. Bob and his family deserve to spend the money to make up for all of the hard times.
- _____ 4. He has to do something with the money.

Considering Bob's story and remembering that number three was selected as the best action, then someone might feel that number 1 is exactly what he or she was thinking in choosing the solution. Similarly, someone might think that number 2 has a little bit to do with what he or she was thinking in choosing the solution, that number 3 has nothing to do with the choice, and that number 4 is not much better. Following this thinking, number one should be rated a 1, number two a 2, number three with a 4, and number four with a 3 or a 4.

After rating reach item you will be asked to rank the best and worst reason. Based on the above it would make sense to rank number one as the best reason and number three or number four as the worst reason.

When you are finished with this example, you may turn to the first story and begin.

Thank you!

Nikki

Nikki is very proud of her promotion to shift manager. She really enjoys the work, the higher salary and likes the people she works with; two in particular, Shauna and Beth are her good friends. Beth, Nikki and Shauna like to do things together and have been close for almost as long as Nikki can remember. However, not everything is perfect for Nikki. When her boss, Ms. Smith, told Nikki of her promotion she also said that the productivity of the shift was down and she was thinking about making some personnel changes. She asked Nikki to be thinking about who should stay and who should go. Nikki really doesn't want to fire anyone, but she wants to do well in her new job.

What bothers Nikki most when she thinks about the workers on her shift is that Beth is at the bottom of the list. In fact, Nikki notices that Beth doesn't even work as hard as she used to before Nikki took over. Nikki really begins to be concerned when she overhears some of the other workers complain that Nikki isn't doing anything about Beth because they are friends. After work one day, Nikki talked to Beth about her job performance, how it is affecting the shift, and how the Boss is concerned and may have to fire someone. Beth appreciates Nikki talking with her and says she will work harder. Beth mentions how much she needs the job—maybe more than anyone else on the shift does. Nikki feels better that they had the talk but hasn't seen much improvement.

At the end of the week, Ms. Smith called Nikki in and tells her that she must let one person go—there just isn't enough work to go around. Ms. Smith tells Nikki that Nikki has two choices: fire the most recent hire or the weakest worker. On Monday, Nikki will have to decide whom to fire. When Nikki thinks about the most recent hire, she notes that it is one of her best workers. Beth is still the weakest worker. Nikki wants to do the best thing for the job, but Beth is a good friend and needs the job badly. She also wonders whether firing Beth would affect her friendships with other people in her group especially Shauna. On the other hand, Nikki is the shift leader and needs to have the best group of workers possible to be successful.

Now please think about these 9 choices that Nikki might make in this situation. Rate each solution as follows:

Please go to the next page

1 – I strongly believe that this is a GOOD choice

2 – I believe that this is a GOOD choice

3 – I am not sure

4 – I believe that this is a BAD choice

5 – I strongly believe that this is a BAD choice

- _____ 1. Nikki should fire Beth, the weakest worker.
- _____ 2. Nikki should fire Beth after explaining why she has to do so.
- _____ 3. Nikki should fire Beth but help her to get another job.
- _____ 4. Nikki should tell Beth that it is the manager that wants her fired.
- _____ 5. Nikki should resign from her managerial position rather than fire Beth.
- _____ 6. Nikki should consult Ms. Smith, the manager, to determine the best way to handle the situation.
- _____ 7. Nikki should work with Ms. Smith to help inefficient workers before firing anybody.
- _____ 8. Nikki should ask Ms. Smith to do the firing.
- _____ 9. Nikki should tell Ms. Smith that the shift needs everyone.

Please rank the BEST three choices by putting the item number (1-9) in the blank:

_____ Best choice

_____ 2nd best

_____ 3rd best

Please rank the two WORST choices by putting the item number (1-9) in the blank:

_____ Worst solution

_____ 2nd worst

Please go to the next page

Now please judge the following reasons Nikki might be thinking about while she makes her decision. Use the following scale to rate each justification:

- 1 – I strongly believe that this is a GOOD reason.**
- 2 – I believe that this is a GOOD reason.**
- 3 – I am not sure.**
- 4 – I believe that that this is a BAD reason.**
- 5 – I strongly believe that this is a BAD reason.**

- _____ 1. Beth knew she had to improve but did not.
- _____ 2. If Beth is a true friend she should understand and respect Nikki’s decision.
- _____ 3. Firing Beth will be the best thing for everyone in the long run.
- _____ 4. It is Beth’s fault that this happened to begin with.
- _____ 5. As an employee, Nikki must consider what is best for the company.
- _____ 6. By doing what is right, Nikki will gain the respect of her other employees.
- _____ 7. Nikki must do what her superior wants.
- _____ 8. Nikki will be friends with Beth a lot longer than she will hold her current position.
- _____ 9. Nikki has to think of the long term good in both of her roles.
- _____ 10. Nikki could really prove herself as a leader.

Please rank the top three reasons by putting the **item** number (1-10) in the appropriate blank:

- _____ Best reason
- _____ 2nd best
- _____ 3rd best

Please indicate the two worst justifications by indicating the **item** number (1-10) in the appropriate blank:

- _____ Worst reason
- _____ 2nd worst

Please go to the next story

Chris

Chris is really committed to supporting the local relief shelter. He organizes food and clothing drives and serves in the kitchen on a regular basis. With the holiday season drawing near, he has been especially busy helping to make sure that there are enough clothes, toys, and food for those who may need assistance during this stressful time. Saturday is the final big push for supplies and Chris has been working night and day to make sure everything goes well and that all of the goods will be picked up from contributors across the city. Marta, his trainee/assistant, has done a great job of assigning all of the drivers to the various pick-up routes, but Chris knows from past experience that if some pick-ups are missed, children who have been disappointed too many times already will be disappointed again.

Because Chris is committed to helping at the shelter, he often has to miss other fun events that his friends attend. This Saturday his favorite band is performing in the neighboring town. Not only does the band play great music, but also Chris knows that this group also supports some of the same causes he does. He has a last-minute opportunity to possibly meet one of the band members personally to talk about their common interests. But, Marta has already asked to have the day off and made plans that she can't change. Everyone else familiar with the shelter set-up has left town for the holidays. Another worker, Francis, is a regular at the shelter and has volunteered to be in charge, but Chris knows that Francis has offered to help in the past and not come through either by not showing up or doing a poor job.

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Please think about these 8 choices that Chris might make in this situation. Rate each choice as follows:

1 – I strongly believe that this is a GOOD choice

2 – I believe that this is a GOOD choice

3 – I am not sure

4 – I believe that this is a BAD choice

5 – I strongly believe that this is a BAD choice

- _____ 1. Chris should go hear the band and should not worry about Francis doing the job right.
- _____ 2. Chris should stay at the shelter until everything is done.
- _____ 3. Chris should put Francis in charge after making Francis promise to do a good job.
- _____ 4. Chris should oversee the work at the shelter but make every effort to get to see the band later after the concert.
- _____ 5. Chris should divide his time between the concert and the shelter.
- _____ 6. Chris should try to get the band to come to the shelter.
- _____ 7. Chris should reschedule the shelter workday.
- _____ 8. Chris should go to the concert and attempt to speak to the band on the shelter's behalf.

Please rank the top three choices by indicating the **item** number (1-8) in the appropriate blank:

_____ Best solution

_____ 2nd best

_____ 3rd best

Please indicate the two worst choices by indicating the **item** number (1-8) in the appropriate blank:

_____ Worst solution

_____ 2nd worst

Please go to the next page

Now please judge the following reasons Chris might be thinking about while he makes his decision. Use the following scale to rate each reason:

1 – I strongly believe that this is a GOOD reason.

2 – I believe that this is a GOOD reason.

3 – I am not sure.

4 – I believe that that this is a BAD reason.

5 – I strongly believe that this is a BAD reason.

- _____ 1. Chris' efforts to see the band could really benefit the shelter.
- _____ 2. You can't hand off a commitment when something better comes along.
- _____ 3. There are no guarantees that meeting the band will help out the shelter.
- _____ 4. He does not want to let the children and families down.
- _____ 5. His conscience will bother him if he goes to the concert.
- _____ 6. It is only a volunteer job.
- _____ 7. He must do what is best for the shelter.
- _____ 8. He does not want to be selfish.
- _____ 9. If he wants to make sure that something is done right he should do it himself.
- _____ 10. He does not want to appear hypocritical.
- _____ 11. Seeing the band is a great opportunity for him.

Please rank the top three reasons by indicating the **item** number (1-11) in the appropriate blank:

_____ Best reason

_____ 2nd best

_____ 3rd best

Please indicate the two worst justifications by indicating the **item** number (1-11) in the appropriate blank:

_____ Worst reason

_____ 2nd worst

Please go to the next story

Molly

Recently, Molly has been interested in making new friends. She would like to be seen with a more popular group than she currently hangs out with and some of the popular kids have shown an interest in her. As she gets to know these new friends, Molly finds that they have some definite ideas about other kids and can be quite critical of them. One kid in particular they have problems with is Fran. As a child and into high school Molly used to be friendly with Fran and still likes her although recently they have been going their separate ways. Fran is quiet, has some peculiar ways of doing things; for instance she dresses differently than most and is easy to pick on. One day Molly and her new friends are eating lunch talking about whom they like and dislike. Fran's name comes up and some really ugly things are said that Molly thinks are really unfair. Someone remembers that Molly used to know Fran and asks Molly whether what she has said about Fran is true.

Now please think about these 8 choices that Molly might make in this situation. Rate each solution as follows:

1 – I strongly believe that this is a GOOD choice

2 – I believe that this is a GOOD choice

3 – I am not sure

4 – I believe that this is a BAD choice

5 – I strongly believe that this is a BAD choice

- _____ 1. Molly should not defend an old friend like Fran.
- _____ 2. Molly should not defend Fran but not trust her new friends afterwards.
- _____ 3. Molly should defend Fran and stop the ugly things being said.
- _____ 4. Molly must weigh the cost of defending an old friend with the benefits of having new friends.
- _____ 5. Molly should defend Fran by pointing out to her new friends how unfair their statements are.
- _____ 6. Molly should ignore the comments and mention Fran's good points.
- _____ 7. Molly should ignore the comments and hope that nothing like that will be said again.
- _____ 8. Molly should just tell the truth about Fran even if it makes her new friends wonder about her.

Please rank the BEST three choices by putting the **item** number (1-8) in the blank:

_____ Best choice

_____ 2nd best

_____ 3rd best

Please rank the two WORST choices by putting the **item** number (1-8) in the blank:

_____ Worst solution

_____ 2nd worst

Please go to the next page

Now please judge the following reasons Molly might be thinking about while she makes her decision. Use the following scale to rate each justification:

1 – I strongly believe that this is a GOOD reason.

2 – I believe that this is a GOOD reason.

3 – I am not sure.

4 – I believe that that this is a BAD reason.

5 – I strongly believe that this is a BAD reason.

- _____ 1. If they are real friends, the group will respect what Molly has to say.
- _____ 2. Molly should support Fran since they were friends.
- _____ 3. Fran is not there to defend herself.
- _____ 4. If she says nothing then it would make Molly no better than the rest of the group.
- _____ 5. False things are being said about Fran.
- _____ 6. Molly will feel better about herself in the long run if she supports Fran.
- _____ 7. It shows Molly's maturity to support Fran.
- _____ 8. Friendships should not be sacrificed at the expense of doing the right thing.
- _____ 9. Popularity should not be contingent on going with the crowd.
- _____ 10. Fran would defend Molly so Molly should defend Fran.

Please rank the top three reasons by indicating the **item** number (1-10) in the appropriate blank:

_____ Best reason

_____ 2nd best

_____ 3rd best

Please indicate the two worst reasons by indicating the **item** number (1-10) in the appropriate blank:

_____ Worst reasons

_____ 2nd worst

Please go to the next story

David

Things are looking good for David in his senior year of high school. He has a great group of friends and the girlfriend of his dreams. The academic side looks good too and if he gets the full-tuition scholarship then he will accomplish his goal of becoming the first person from his family to attend college. Without the scholarship David can't afford to go. David looks forward to going to State with his friends and girlfriend who are already planning to go and can swing it financially.

The only problem is nailing down the scholarship. Dave's school counselor has told him that he is right on the line with his test scores and would be a "shoe-in" if he can improve his ACT Math scores. The counselor knows how much the scholarship means to David and has set him up with a tutor. David knows he has one shot left to improve his scores. David is not particularly pleased about all the time he has to spend on math because he has had less time for his friends, particularly his girlfriend. However, he remains focused because he feels all the hard work and sacrifice will be worthwhile in the long run when they are all at State together.

Although his friends and girlfriend understand David's situation, they can't believe that he would pass up the opportunity to go on the senior trip to Washington, D.C. during spring break. His girlfriend asks him to reconsider and warns him that her patience is wearing thin. She tells him that the trip would be a perfect way to spend some much needed quality time together. He really would like to go on the trip and be with his friends. But he knows that if he goes he will have to cut his studying short since the ACT is scheduled for the day after he would get home and David knows that he wouldn't be able to study much on the trip. Taking the test the day after he gets back isn't a good idea either since he might be too tired to do a good job. If that happened then all that work would have been wasted. To top it off, his tutor mentioned that he will be conducting some important drill sessions on the Wednesday and Thursday before the ACT, which she says really makes a difference. If he went on the trip then he would miss these sessions.

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Now please think about these 8 choices that David might make in this situation. Rate each solution as follows:

1 – I strongly believe that this is a GOOD choice

2 – I believe that this is a GOOD choice

3 – I am not sure

4 – I believe that this is a BAD choice

5 – I strongly believe that this is a BAD choice

- _____ 1. David should stick to his plan and not go on the trip.
- _____ 2. David should not go but be sure to explain to his friends the purposes of what he is doing.
- _____ 3. David should not go on the trip, but spend some extra time with friends before they go.
- _____ 4. David should stay and then be sure to spend quality time with everyone after the test.
- _____ 5. David should go on the trip and then cram when he gets home.
- _____ 6. David should express his resentment to his friends for tempting him.
- _____ 7. David should take the break he deserves regardless of his exam.
- _____ 8. David should go on the trip and let his friends know he is going for them.

Please rank the BEST three choices by putting the **item** number (1-8) in the blank:

_____ Best choice

_____ 2nd best

_____ 3rd best

Please rank the two WORST choices by putting the **item** number (1-8) in the blank:

_____ Worst solution

_____ 2nd worst

Please go to the next page

Now please judge the following reasons David might be thinking about while he makes his decision. Use the following scale to rate each reason:

- 1 – I strongly believe that this is a GOOD reason.**
- 2 – I believe that this is a GOOD reason.**
- 3 – I am not sure.**
- 4 – I believe that that this is a BAD reason.**
- 5 – I strongly believe that this is a BAD reason.**

- _____ 1. The trip is a once in a lifetime opportunity.
- _____ 2. If his friends are true, they will understand why he can't go.
- _____ 3. His decision has the potential to drastically impact his future.
- _____ 4. He will have many other opportunities to repair his relationships.
- _____ 5. He does not want to lose important friendships.
- _____ 6. He cannot violate this commitment that he has made to himself.
- _____ 7. He does not want to miss out on what is ahead of him.
- _____ 8. A college education is much more important than a week in Washington.
- _____ 9. He will be more relaxed and focused when he gets back from the trip.
- _____ 10. Friends come and go but a good education sticks with you.
- _____ 11. In the long run, friendships are the most important thing.

Please rank the top three reasons by putting the **item** number (1-11) in the appropriate blank:

- _____ Best reason
- _____ 2nd best
- _____ 3rd best

Please indicate the two worst justifications by indicating the **item** number (1-11) in the appropriate blank:

- _____ Worst reason
- _____ 2nd worst

Please go to the next story

Danielle

Vera, Tanya, and Jake are sitting at the lunch table discussing the mid-term they are about to take in physics next period. The test is sure to be a bear and Vera, Tanya, and Jake are worried about it. Joe and Danielle sit down at the table. Knowing that Joe and Danielle have taken the test earlier in the day, the three already sitting at the table ask Joe and Danielle about the test. Joe and Danielle are not supposed to discuss the test with anyone that has yet taken it. Along with all the other students who have already taken the mid-term, they have promised each other and their teacher to keep quiet about the test until all sections have taken it. Joe, who likes Tanya and wants to try to make a good impression with her, immediately and very clearly details everything that was on the test when asked. Much to Joe's delight, Tanya remarks to Joe, "You're such an angel! I hardly studied because I didn't think that there would be any way that I could do well on the test but now I think I might be able to get an A." Danielle is shocked to hear Joe discuss the test and is very upset with him for doing so. He knew quite well that he wasn't supposed to say anything.

Now please think about these 9 choices that Danielle might make in this situation. Rate each solution as follows:

- 1 – I strongly believe that this is a GOOD choice**
- 2 – I believe that this is a GOOD choice**
- 3 – I am not sure**
- 4 – I believe that this is a BAD choice**
- 5 – I strongly believe that this is a BAD choice**

- _____ 1. Danielle should say nothing and mind her own business.
- _____ 2. Danielle should tell Joe and the others about how upset and disappointed she is, but not tell the instructor.
- _____ 3. Danielle should talk to Joe and see if he will tell on his own, but should tell if Joe doesn't.
- _____ 4. Danielle should tell the instructor without talking to anyone else.
- _____ 5. Danielle should keep quiet about the situation and tell the others to do the same.
- _____ 6. Danielle should talk to Tanya and tell her that taking advantage of Joe was wrong.
- _____ 7. Danielle should send an anonymous note to the instructor about what happened.
- _____ 8. Danielle should pretend she didn't see anything wrong.
- _____ 9. Danielle should tell the instructor that she heard a rumor that some students received information about the test.

Now please rank the BEST three choices by putting the **item** number (1-9) in the blank:

- _____ Best choice
- _____ 2nd best
- _____ 3rd best

Please rank the two WORST choices by putting the **item** number (1- 9) in the blank:

- _____ Worst solution
- _____ 2nd worst

Please go to the next page

Now please judge the following reasons Danielle might be thinking about while she makes her decision. Use the following scale to rate each reason:

- 1 – I strongly believe that this is a GOOD reason.**
- 2 – I believe that this is a GOOD reason.**
- 3 – I am not sure.**
- 4 – I believe that that this is a BAD reason.**
- 5 – I strongly believe that this is a BAD reason.**

- _____ 1. Those that received information were not likely to remember it anyway.
- _____ 2. It is not fair to those who did not receive any information.
- _____ 3. People's grades are at stake.
- _____ 4. Others in the class will appreciate what Danielle does.
- _____ 5. The instructor has the right to know.
- _____ 6. The purpose of the exam is being corrupted.
- _____ 7. More problems could be caused for everyone by telling the teacher.
- _____ 8. It is the teacher and the test system that is the problem.
- _____ 9. It might appear to others that she is telling for self-serving and revengeful reasons.
- _____ 10. It won't help anything to get involved.

Please rank the top three reasons by putting the **item** number (1-10) in the appropriate blank:

- _____ Best reason
- _____ 2nd best
- _____ 3rd best

Please indicate the two worst justifications by indicating the **item** number (1-10) in the appropriate blank:

- _____ Worst reason
- _____ 2nd worst

Please go to the next story

Janie

Janie, a freshman theater major, was asked to play the lead role in her department's upcoming spring production. A freshman has never been chosen to play the lead in a play; therefore, Janie was surprised at the opportunity. This part, Janie realized, could have an incredible impact on her school career as an actress and maybe beyond! However, after the first few rehearsals, she realized that her views and the views of the person she will be playing are really different. Janie realized that the subject matter in the play and the actions of her character go against many of her own values and beliefs. Janie talked with her best friend about her concerns. He stated that if she quits the play the department would not take her seriously. Janie knows the importance of this opportunity. She has been told that if she turns this down, she will not be chosen to play the lead in any upcoming production. However, she has always taken pride in her beliefs and in the examples that she has set, and if she plays this role, she will promote behaviors and values that she feels are very wrong.

Now please think about these 8 choices that Janie might make in this situation. Rate each solution as follows:

- 1 – I strongly believe that this is a GOOD choice**
- 2 – I believe that this is a GOOD choice**
- 3 – I am not sure**
- 4 – I believe that this is a BAD choice**
- 5 – I strongly believe that this is a BAD choice**

- _____ 1. Janie should step down from the role after explaining to everyone her reasons.
- _____ 2. Janie should play the part but make sure everyone knows of her true beliefs.
- _____ 3. Janie should do what her parents think is best.
- _____ 4. Janie should talk to the director and request another part.
- _____ 5. Before she decides, Janie should think further how her decision would impact her future.
- _____ 6. Janie should consider what would have the most impact on her friends.
- _____ 7. Janie should see if some changes could be made to the script.
- _____ 8. A part in the play is an opportunity she can't pass up.

Please rank the top three choices by indicating the **item** number (1-8) in the appropriate blank:

- _____ Best solution
- _____ 2nd best
- _____ 3rd best

Please indicate the two worst choices by indicating the **item** number (1-8) in the appropriate blank:

- _____ Worst solution
- _____ 2nd worst

Please go to the next page

Now please judge the following reasons Janie might be thinking about while she makes her decision. Use the following scale to rate each reason:

1 – I strongly believe that this is a GOOD reason.

2 – I believe that this is a GOOD reason.

3 – I am not sure.

4 – I believe that that this is a BAD reason.

5 – I strongly believe that this is a BAD reason.

- _____ 1. It's just acting.
- _____ 2. It is a great opportunity that could have an impact on her career.
- _____ 3. It would compromise her values and beliefs, which would make her unhappy.
- _____ 4. She would not be successful in the play if she does not have confidence in the role.
- _____ 5. She will be better off in the long run if she doesn't compromise her beliefs.
- _____ 6. She must believe that others know what's best for her.
- _____ 7. Similar issues are likely to happen again so she has to figure out a way of dealing with them now.
- _____ 8. The part will be played by someone else anyway.
- _____ 9. By playing the part now, Janie may be able to argue for better plays later.
- _____ 10. By standing up for her beliefs, Janie strengthens them through sacrifice.
- _____ 11. Beliefs come and go, but opportunities like this are vary rare.

Now please rank the top three reasons by putting the **item** number (1-11) in the appropriate Blank:

- _____ Best reason
- _____ 2nd best
- _____ 3rd best

Please indicate the two worst justifications by indicating the **item** number (1-11) in the appropriate blank:

- _____ Worst reason
- _____ 2nd worst

Please go to the next story

John

John, a seventeen-year-old student, plays baseball for his community baseball team. He has played baseball under the same coach since little league. Coach Johnson is a kind and good coach, but he is not very aggressive. In fact, other coaches, such as Coach Henry from the Wildcats, often make fun of him and call him soft. However, despite their view of him, Coach Johnson has always taken extra time with his team to help them with any problems they might be having, and never once does he yell or make them feel worthless. John is Coach Johnson's favorite player. The coach has always helped John with batting and pitching techniques, and John often refers to the coach as his second father. John's family and community have also noticed the relationship and have commented that because of Coach Johnson's support, John has become an all-star in the league. Unfortunately, Coach Johnson's teams have never been very good and rarely make the playoffs. However, just the other day Coach Johnson joyously exclaimed to John that with his talent and leadership, the team really has a chance to win the championship. This complicated things for John because this year Coach Henry from the Wildcats, two time league champs and last year's state champs asked John to come pitch for his team, and John would love to win one championship before leaving high school. John's best friend, who just recently moved from Coach Johnson's team to the Wildcats, has also been trying to get John to make the move, and it would be pretty cool to be on a team with his best friend.

Now please think about these 8 choices that John might make in this situation. Rate each solution as follows:

1 – I strongly believe that this is a GOOD choice

2 – I believe that this is a GOOD choice

3 – I am not sure

4 – I believe that this is a BAD choice

5 – I strongly believe that this is a BAD choice

- _____ 1. John should stay with the team.
- _____ 2. John should tell Coach Johnson about the opportunity and then decide.
- _____ 3. John should talk with his friends and see what they recommend.
- _____ 4. John should talk to Coach Johnson and do what Coach Johnson suggests.
- _____ 5. John should just go to the new team.
- _____ 6. John should talk to Coach Henry to see how much he would really get to play on the Wildcats and then decide.
- _____ 7. John should talk to Coach Henry and tell him why he prefers to stay on his present team.
- _____ 8. John should talk to his parents and do what they suggest.

Please rank the top three choices by indicating the **item** number (1-8) in the appropriate blank:

_____ Best solution

_____ 2nd best

_____ 3rd best

Please indicate the two worst choices by indicating the **item** number (-1-8) in the appropriate blank:

_____ Worst solution

_____ 2nd worst

Please go to the next page

Now please judge the following reasons John might be thinking about while he makes his decision. Use the following scale to rate each justification:

1 – I strongly believe that this is a GOOD reason.

2 – I believe that this is a GOOD reason.

3 – I am not sure.

4 – I believe that that this is a BAD reason.

5 – I strongly believe that this is a BAD reason.

- _____ 1. Coach Johnson helped John become the player he is.
- _____ 2. Winning the championship on Coach Johnson's team would be more meaningful.
- _____ 3. Losing a few games is not as bad as losing important relationships.
- _____ 4. John owes it to himself to become the best player he can be.
- _____ 5. Leaving would really hurt the team and its ability to win.
- _____ 6. John might not be as big a star.
- _____ 7. John wouldn't be as talented and skilled if it weren't for Coach Johnson.
- _____ 8. Leaving might cause people to question what kind of person and player John is now.
- _____ 9. John probably won't be as happy if he breaks his commitment to Coach Johnson.
- _____ 10. Coach Johnson has always had John's best interests at heart.

Now please rank the top three reasons by putting the **item** number (1-10) in the appropriate blank:

- _____ Best reason
- _____ 2nd best
- _____ 3rd best

Please indicate the two worst justifications by indicating the **item** number (1-10) in the appropriate blank:

- _____ Worst reason
- _____ 2nd worst

THANK YOU!