

THEME 2 FRIENDSHIP READING SKILL (NOTIFIER)

A. Read the argumentative text and write the number of the main conclusion for each paragraph in the boxes.

One is extra.

1. _____ There are certain answers to the question, "What makes a good friend?" However, the answers to the question "What does a good friend make?" are under debate. Some see good friendships as a natural part of everyday social life, while there are others who believe that friendships are vital to personal development.

2. _____ People who think that friendships are a natural part of everyday social life see them as a form of social relationship. They believe that humans have to construct relationships for survival and social needs, and friendship is one of them. Like other relationships such as marriages, kinship, club memberships, etc., friendship is a form of sharing, and it may include both the positive and negative. People who are thought to be good friends may be part of the negative.

3. _____ On the other hand, proponents of the idea that good friendships are vital to personal development focus on the definition of a true friendship. They emphasize that a close or best friend is not necessarily a true friend. To them, true friends are the ones who stand by you through hard times and in making better decisions. The support throughout hard times and in decision-making will ease up the pain and push you forward. Therefore, a true friend is an invaluable person in one's personal development.

4. _____ In conclusion, people may see and define friendship in different ways. Their points of view determine the importance of friends in life. However, if one has true friends for support throughout hardships and decision-making process, they are likely to feel and do better.

Main conclusions

- a. The way one sees friendship determines its weight in life.
- b. People hold different views on good friendship.
- c. Good friendships cannot occur without experience.
- d. Friendship is a form of social relationship.
- e. True friends make a difference in life.

B. Read the dialog. If you were Lindo, what other questions would you ask about your probable roommate's personal features? Choose from the box and/or make your own list.

David : Lindo, you told me that you needed a roommate. Do you still need that?

Lindo : Yes. I need one.

David : Look, I have a classmate, Martin. He needs a place to stay. Perhaps, you could be roommates.

Lindo : What kind of a person is he? Do you think we can get on well?

David : Most probably. He is a dependable person. That's very important, you know. He is also modest.

Lindo : Great. He needs to be honest and generous as well. Is he?

David: He is. No doubt. He is ready to give help and share what he has at any time. You are similar in that.

Lindo : That's great. Does he have a good sense of humor? You know, I make jokes often.

David : He is not as humorous as you, but you can teach him about that. Ha hah ha!

Lindo : Is he a cooperative one? Cooperation is vital.

David : As far as I know, he is. He used to share his apartment with someone else, but he graduated and left. So, he needs a new roommate now. He cannot afford the rent on his own. He must be aware of the importance of being cooperative. He is also neat and organized. You will like his company.

Lindo: I hope so. Where is he from?

David : From Hungary. Budapest.

Lindo : That's great. We have a lot in common with Hungarian people. We can go for a coffee and talk about the details tomorrow.

Your List of Questions

1. Is he keen on sports?
2. Does he have a good sense of arts?
3. Is he tolerant of others' mistakes?
4. Is he punctual?
5. What other personal qualities does he have?