

THE BEST KIND OF FRIEND

What do you think are the most important qualities in a friend? On the right side of the scale, list 3 of the most important things about friendship. List 3 of the least important items on the left side.

1.

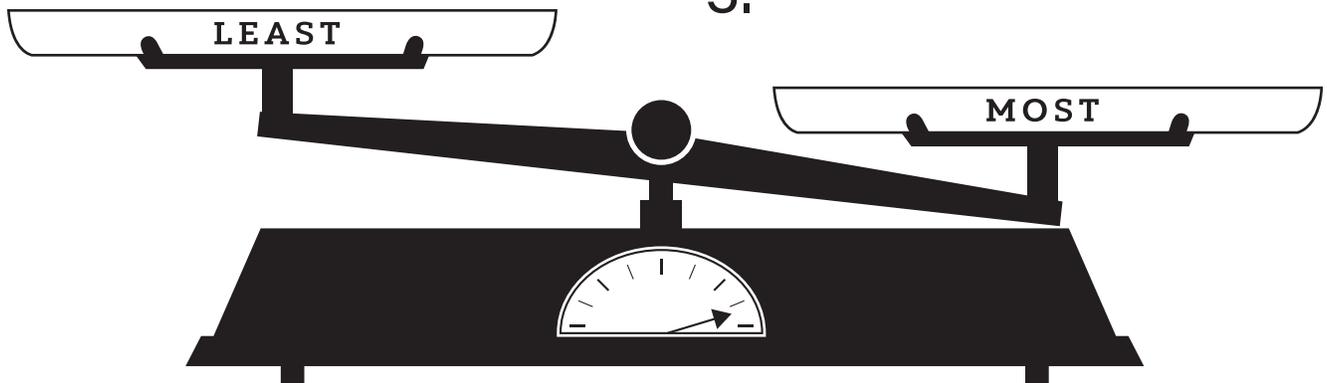
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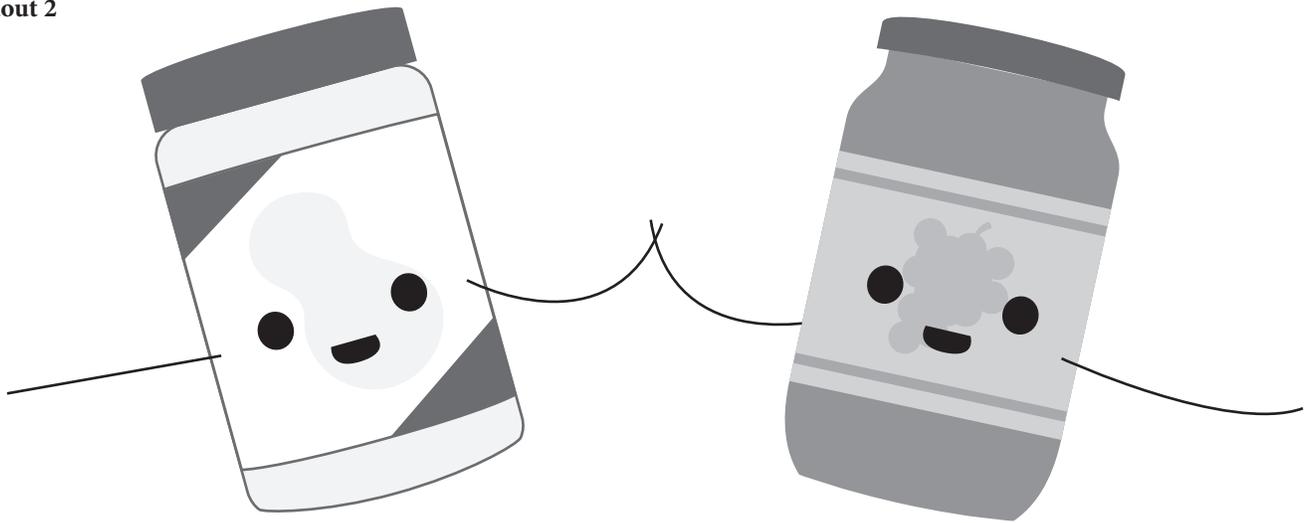
3.

1.

2.

3.





FOREVER FRIENDS

Read each passage and answer the following questions.

- ▶ Read **Ruth 1:14–18, 22**. Who are the friends in this passage?

What was Ruth giving up for Naomi (vv. 16–17)?

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Home | <input type="checkbox"/> Friends | <input type="checkbox"/> Riches | <input type="checkbox"/> Familiarity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Her gods | <input type="checkbox"/> Popularity | <input type="checkbox"/> Her job | <input type="checkbox"/> Learning |

- ▶ Read **Daniel 1:8–16**. While in captivity, Daniel and his friends couldn't eat the king's food with a good conscience. What did Daniel do about this problem?

What did Daniel do for his friends in **Daniel 2:48–49**?

- ▶ Read **1 Samuel 19:1–7**. Do you think it was easy for Jonathan to stand up to his father on David's behalf? Why or why not?

WHAT SHOULD I DO?

You write relationship advice for a blog. Pick one of the letters below and write a reply. Include whether the friendship is good or bad, why you think so, and what advice you'd give.



Letter 1 – Kelsey

Emma and I started hanging out together this year. At first, we had a lot of fun together, but lately she's been kind of distant. Like last month, when we got together to work on a group project for Biology, she just sat and texted the whole time, saying that it would be easy for me to do her part of the project as well as mine. And last week, my car broke down, so I asked her for a ride to school. She said she couldn't because she had a bunch of stuff in her car that she didn't feel like removing.

I feel like I'm the only one putting anything into our friendship. What should I do?

Letter 2 – Dominic

I don't know Kyle very well, but I've seen him around school—he's that weird guy who always wears a panda hoodie. Well, last month, I was walking down the steps in front of our building when I tripped and fell, breaking my ankle. Some girls laughed at me, but Kyle ran over to see if I needed help. And afterwards, he offered to drop off my homework while I was out of school recovering.

Kyle recently invited me over to play some games with him. He's a nice guy, but he's also kind of weird. Should I try to be friends with him? If I hang out with him, will people think I'm weird, too?

Letter 3 – Hosea

I met this guy Jacob a few months ago at the start of soccer practice—he seemed pretty laid-back at first. We talked about our favorite shows, and then we made plans to hang out that weekend. Later, the coach called him out on a foul for kicking another player. Jacob exploded and started screaming in the coach's face, and he got sent home.

Next time I saw Jacob, he started complaining about the coach and said I should quit soccer. What should I do? I want to keep hanging out with Jacob, but I don't want to quit playing.

► Dear _____,

MIXED SIGNALS

Volunteer 1

Direction – Bubbly and happy

Line – “My dog was hit by a car!”

Volunteer 2

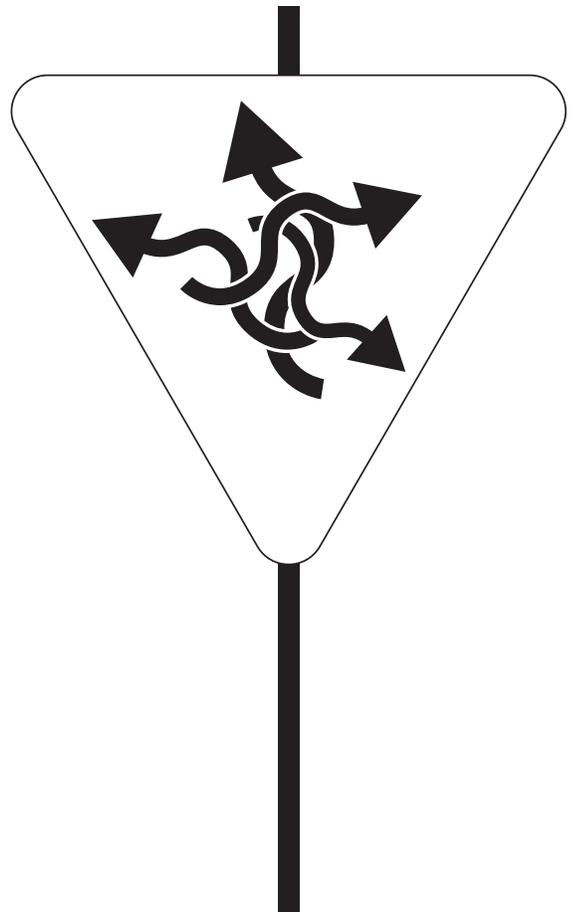
Direction – Disgusted

Line – “My parents are taking me to my favorite restaurant tonight.”

Volunteer 3

Direction – Dramatic despair

Line – “I got an A on my history exam.”



FRIENDVENTORY

Think about your closest friends and rate them for each item.

My friends . . .

	Rarely	Sometimes	Often
1. Desert me when I need help.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Make it easy for me to give in to temptation and sin.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Blame me for their own mistakes or problems.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Make me feel like I can't be myself around them.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Disrespect the personal boundaries or limits that I've asked them to observe.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Lack the fruit of the Spirit, like joy, love, and peace (Gal. 5:22–23).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Share things that I expected them to keep confidential.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Make fun of me even though I'm uncomfortable with it.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Prevent me from serving in my church or ministry.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Break their promises or habitually forget important commitments.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Refuse to be vulnerable, honest, and open.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Expect me to make most of the effort to keep our friendship alive.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. Pull away from me or mock me if I disagree with them about something.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. Interrupt me or ignore me when I'm talking.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. Hinder my relationship with God.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

TOMATO, TOMAHTO

A Here, I grabbed lunch for you.

B What is this? I asked you for a sandwich, and you gave me a hot dog.

A A hot dog is a sandwich.

B No way it's not. There's nothing remotely sandwich-like about a hot dog!

A What defines a sandwich? It's filling between two pieces of bread. A hot dog is filling stuck between two pieces of bun.

B Yeah, but it's one bun, not two.

A It's divided into two when you put the hot dog in it.

B But it's still one piece of bread—it's all attached.

A The bread encases the hot dog—just like a sandwich encases the filling.

B If a hot dog is a sandwich, then why isn't it called a "hot dog sandwich"?

A It doesn't need to be—you don't call a "grilled cheese" a "grilled cheese sandwich," do you?

B No, because a grilled cheese is a melt, not a sandwich.

A No it's not! It's a sandwich—even though we don't call it a "grilled cheese sandwich."

B It is totally a melt, not a sandwich—it's served hot. Sandwiches aren't served hot.

A Speaking of hot, it's getting warm in here. I'm gonna turn the AC up.

B Don't you mean turn the AC down?

A No—I want it to turn on.

B But if you "turn it up," then you're making the numbers go higher, thus preventing the AC from turning on.

A That's dumb. When I turn it up, the numbers go down—and the AC turns on.

B So you should say, "I'm turning the AC down."

A Uh, no. That would make the AC go off. If I want it to come on, I'm going to turn it up.

B That makes no sense!

A Makes perfect sense to me. Anyway, I'll see you next weekend.

B You mean in a couple of days? Today is Thursday.

A No, I mean next weekend. Not the end of this week, but the end of next week.

B But next weekend means . . . the weekend that comes next in line. That's this weekend.

A No, I mean the weekend that's part of next week. Next weekend.

B Get out of here.