

GLOSSARY

alternative: 1. another possibility. 2. an opportunity to choose among options.

analyze: to separate into parts so as to determine the nature of the whole; examine in detail.

appropriate: suitable for a particular person, condition, occasion, or place; fitting.

choice: 1. the act of choosing; selection. 2. the power, right, or liberty to choose. 3. an option or alternative.

consequence: 1. something that naturally follows from an action or condition. 2. a logical conclusion.

hypothetical: based on a temporary explanation of something which is assumed as true until all the facts are brought into consideration.

informed decision: a decision based on reliable information.

process: 1. a series of actions, changes, or functions bringing about a result. 2. progress; passage.

pros and cons: the positive and negative reasons for and against something.

proverb: a short, familiar saying that very simply captures and expresses some truth or piece of wisdom.

relevant: 1. having a connection with the matter at hand. 2. fitting or suiting given requirements.

weigh options: 1. to balance different possibilities in the mind in order to make a choice; ponder or evaluate. 2. to examine alternatives.

MYSTERY PERSON #1

MIKA LEE

- ❖ You were born in Fiji.
- ❖ Your birthday is October 2.
- ❖ You have no middle name.
- ❖ You moved to Australia with your family last year.
- ❖ You have one sister and one brother.
- ❖ Your sister is older than you, and your brother is younger.
- ❖ Most of your relatives live in Australia, but you have an aunt, uncle, and cousins who live in New Zealand.
- ❖ Your family has two pets: a dog named Mister and a cat named Spike.
- ❖ You speak Fijian as well as English.
- ❖ Your favourite foods are spaghetti, fish, and ice cream.
- ❖ Your favourite color is orange.
- ❖ Your favourite sport is basketball.
- ❖ You like to play video games, swim, and ride your bike.
- ❖ You would like to be a veterinarian someday.
- ❖ You would also like to be a professional basketballer.
- ❖ You would like to travel around the world someday.

MYSTERY PERSON #2

JERRY SOLO

- ❖ You were born in Cordoba.
- ❖ Your birthday is February 28.
- ❖ Your middle name is Rawson, which is your mother's maiden name.
- ❖ You are an Australian citizen, but you were born in Argentina. Your family moved back to Australia when you were four years old.
- ❖ Your family moved here on account of your father's new job.
- ❖ You have one sister.
- ❖ Your sister is younger than you.
- ❖ Your grandparents and most of your other relatives live near you.
- ❖ Your family has no pets.
- ❖ You speak English.
- ❖ Your favourite foods are burritos, pizza, and steak.
- ❖ Your favourite color is purple.
- ❖ Your favourite sport is soccer—you have played it since the age of four.
- ❖ You also like to play basketball, and you are learning to swim.
- ❖ You love to read adventure and mystery stories, go to movies, and cook.
- ❖ You would like to be a pilot someday.
- ❖ You would also like to be an actor or a chef.

THE FRIENDS

- ❖ For as long as you can remember, this friend has been to your birthday parties. He is always there to listen when someone needs a friend. He is the only one in your group of friends who has never been to a concert, and he doesn't really enjoy music. He wants to go to this concert because he doesn't want to miss out on any fun.
- ❖ This friend is a great storyteller and tells hilarious jokes. This is her favourite band, and she has been talking about the concert for months. She is always fun to be with, but she shoplifts every time you go somewhere. Part of the reason she can't wait to go to the concert is because she is excited about the items she will steal from vendors there.
- ❖ This friend is very responsible, and everybody's parents love her. If she goes to the concert, you can all stay out later. Parents feel that if this friend goes to the concert, you will all be safe. She is also somewhat of an outsider; she isn't always fun to be with. Lately, she has been spending less time with the group.
- ❖ This friend has the most money in the group, and always spends it on his friends. You know that if he goes to the concert, he will buy you souvenirs and food. This friend also has an early curfew. If he goes to the concert, you can't attend the after-party.



FINAL ANNOUNCEMENT

These two people will go to the concert:

- 1.
- 2.

MAKE IT EASY

| | | |
|------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Question: | | |
| OPTIONS | CONSEQUENCES | + or - |
| 1. | | |
| 2. | | |
| 3. | | |
| 4. | | |
| Decision: | | |

AGAINST ALL ODDS

Liberty Franklin leads the Boys & Girls Clubs as its Youth of the Year.

When she was younger, Liberty Franklin would come home after school to a dark apartment and find her alcoholic mother sobbing. She never met her father and lost her only picture of him. Her older brothers were in and out of jail, and her older sister was a drug addict.

Liberty, now 17, grew up with a lot of pain. But she didn't let it bring her down. "I weighed things out," she says. "I decided I wanted a better future for myself."

How did she pursue this? In sixth grade, when her friends began drinking, Liberty began going to the local Boys & Girls Clubs for help with her homework. There, she says, "the staff members took me under their wing. At the club, I was able to get away from the drug peddling and violent gangs on the street and the negative things in my family."

At the club, she tutored children and helped organize events like Breakfast With Santa and a back-to-school clothing drive. She also joined a leadership group for girls, where they talked about things "like peer pressure and family life," Liberty says. She gained confidence, enough to speak honestly

to her mother and persuade her to stop drinking. "Now she's in her third year of sobriety," Liberty says proudly.

Liberty also began taking more responsibility at home. To help out financially, she worked as a bank teller and fast-food cashier even as she kept up with her schoolwork.

Now a senior at Everett High School, she's ranked as one of the top students in her class. This spring she will be the first one in her family to graduate from high school.

For her leadership and academic efforts, in September Liberty was named the Boys & Girls Clubs' National Youth of the Year and was given a \$10,000 scholarship.

As the representative of 3 million club members, she has met the President and will travel around the country to discuss important youth issues with business and government leaders.

Liberty says her goal is to help boys and girls overcome obstacles such as poverty, crime and family problems.

"All I've done is to avoid the cycles of negativity. Little did I know I was leading my life by example," she says. "Now I'm proving to my peers that they can do it, too."

—Nancy Vittorino

"At the club, I was able to get away from the drug peddling and the violent gangs."

CIRCLE ME!

