

High School Case Studies



Case I



You are surprised to find that you received a “C” on your first English paper. It is surprising because, all through elementary school, you got very good grades in English. You're not sure if you should question this mark or just accept it and work harder on your next assignment. Also, since you are in grade nine, there is a good chance that you will have this teacher again in the future. You are worried that challenging this mark could give the teacher a bad impression of you.



What is your best course of action? Be prepared to defend your decision.



Case II



For your final geography project, your geography teacher has put you into assigned groups. It is a huge project and it is worth fifteen percent of your final grade. A week before this project is due, it becomes very apparent to you that two out of the four people in your group have done no work. You and your hardworking group mate could finish the whole assignments yourself, but it could put your other grades at risk, as there is a lot that needs to be done in a short amount of time. The only other alternative is to go to the teacher and report the problem.



What is your best course of action? Be prepared to defend your decision.



Case III



It is the first week of classes and you still haven't met many new people at school, outside of the small group of students that you went to elementary school with. In math class, a bunch of your buddies want you to sit at the back of the class with them, but you hesitate because math is your weakest subject. As well, your friends are all pretty good at math and they have made it obvious that they aren't intending to take the class too seriously. You think that you should sit up front but, at the same time, you don't want to offend your friends.



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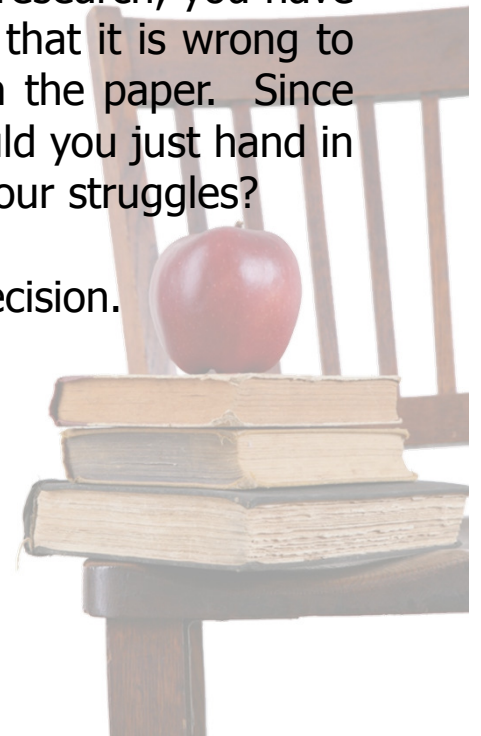
Case IV



It is your first time writing an essay in French. Over the past month, you have realized that your friends that went to other elementary schools have had better training in essay writing and are more skilled in French. You don't want any of your new friends to think that you are not smart, so you attempt to write your essay without any assistance. The night before the essay was due, you realize that you won't be able to finish, based on the pace you are working at. You have written a good first two paragraphs, but you need help to finish it. In your research, you have found a similar essay posted on an American website. You know that it is wrong to copy the entire essay, so you just copy chunks to help you finish the paper. Since you wrote more than half the essay yourself, is this okay? Or, should you just hand in the incomplete paper and run the risk of your friends discovering your struggles?



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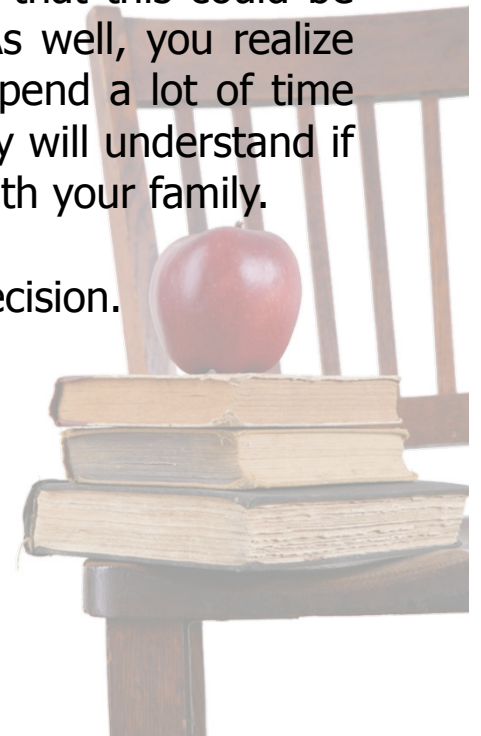
Case V



Traditionally, your family always goes on vacation for a week in October. Due to your parent's jobs, it is the only time they can take off. In elementary school, this was never a problem because your teachers always let you catch-up when you returned. Unfortunately, in high school, this vacation time coincides with midterms, which are starting the week you would be away, and they are continuing to the next week. You have explained the situation to your teachers and they have agreed to let you write them all in the second week, but they have made it clear to you that this could be very stressful and that you will be missing the course review. As well, you realize that even if you go with your family, you are going to have to spend a lot of time studying on your vacation. Your parents have also stated that they will understand if you can't go, but you don't want to miss out on this special time with your family.




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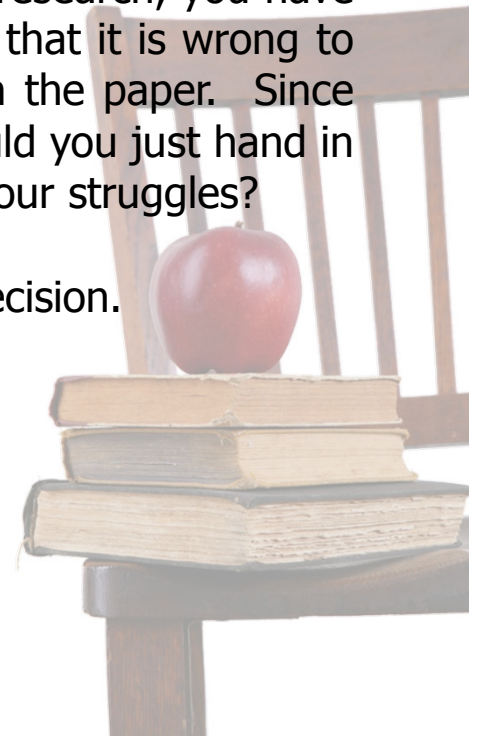
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