

# Preventing Conflict

**Directions:** What can you do to help prevent conflict and violence? To discover the answer, write the word(s) that fit each description in the blanks provided, one letter per blank. Then write the circled letters in the corresponding spaces below.

1. People show  $\frac{\textcircled{\quad}}{1}$  \_\_\_\_\_  $\frac{\textcircled{\quad}}{2}$  \_\_\_\_\_ by accepting and respecting other people's customs and beliefs.
2. A(n)  $\frac{\textcircled{\quad}}{3}$  \_\_\_\_\_ is a disagreement or fight between people with opposing points of view.
3. Sometimes conflicts \_\_\_\_\_  $\frac{\textcircled{\quad}}{4}$  \_\_\_\_\_, or grow into disagreements that are destructive or unsafe.
4.  $\frac{\textcircled{\quad}}{5}$  \_\_\_\_\_ involves talking, listening, considering the other person's point of view, and compromising.
5. Conflicts may be settled by a process of cooperation and problem solving called  $\frac{\textcircled{\quad}}{6}$  \_\_\_\_\_  $\frac{\textcircled{\quad}}{7}$  \_\_\_\_\_.
6. During  $\frac{\textcircled{\quad}}{8}$  \_\_\_\_\_, a neutral third party is used to help reach a solution that is agreeable to everyone.
7. When people \_\_\_\_\_  $\frac{\textcircled{\quad}}{9}$  \_\_\_\_\_  $\frac{\textcircled{\quad}}{10}$  \_\_\_\_\_, they settle a conflict by each agreeing to give up something he or she wanted.
8. A(n)  $\frac{\textcircled{\quad}}{11}$  \_\_\_\_\_  $\frac{\textcircled{\quad}}{12}$  \_\_\_\_\_ is a young person who listens to both parties in conflict and helps them find a solution.

**Answer:**  $\frac{\textcircled{\quad}}{9}$   $\frac{\textcircled{\quad}}{12}$   $\frac{\textcircled{\quad}}{7}$   $\frac{\textcircled{\quad}}{10}$   $\frac{\textcircled{\quad}}{3}$   $\frac{\textcircled{\quad}}{1}$   $\frac{\textcircled{\quad}}{4}$   $\frac{\textcircled{\quad}}{11}$   $\frac{\textcircled{\quad}}{8}$   $\frac{\textcircled{\quad}}{2}$   $\frac{\textcircled{\quad}}{6}$   $\frac{\textcircled{\quad}}{5}$

## Ways to Settle Disputes

**Directions:** Read the conflict scenarios below. Decide how the people in each situation should go about settling the dispute and write your suggestions on the lines provided. When would negotiation or mediation be helpful? Then follow the directions in *Real-Life Conflicts*.

1. Ashlyn’s family usually takes a two-week vacation together in the summer. This summer, Ashlyn has been invited to go on vacation with her friend’s family. The vacations are planned for the same dates. Ashlyn’s parents want her to go with her own family, but she wants to go with her friend.

---

---

---

2. Antoine loaned Marcus a CD, and when it was returned, it did not play as well as it had before. Antoine has accused Marcus of not taking good care of the CD and wants Marcus to replace it. Marcus insists that he did nothing to damage the CD and should not have to buy a replacement.

---

---

---

3. Sharona is upset with her mother for going through her things while Sharona was at school. Her mother says she just wants to make sure Sharona is not doing anything that would be harmful to her. Sharona feels that her privacy is being invaded and wants her mother to stop. Sharona’s mother truly has Sharona’s safety in mind.

---

---

---

4. After fire damaged their school, some students are temporarily attending another school. There has been tension between a group of the visiting students and a group of students who regularly attend the school. After several weeks of trading insults, the tension has escalated into fights.

---

---

---

(Continued on next page)

**CHAPTER 7 (Continued)**

**Ways to Settle Disputes**

5. After several years of playing baseball, Pedro has informed his father that he does not want to play anymore. His father insists that Pedro continue playing.

---

---

---

6. Jenny and Elise were good friends until certain rumors about Jenny started circulating. Several students in school have been saying things that are hurting Jenny’s reputation and causing others to shun her. Jenny has confronted Elise about the rumors, saying that they started on Elise’s blog. Elise protests that she said nothing untrue and that others are responsible for shunning Jenny.

---

---

---

7. Conrad and his older brother Bryce have assigned jobs to do at home. Bryce often puts pressure on Conrad to handle jobs that Bryce gets “too busy” to do. Conrad feels that he is being taken advantage of, but he does not want to make Bryce mad so he does what Bryce tells him to do. Conrad feels anger building up inside.

---

---

---

**Real-Life Conflicts**

Think of a disagreement you have had with someone in the past. How was the situation handled? What was the outcome? Would the outcome have been more positive if the parties had used the conflict-resolution process? Would negotiation or mediation have helped? How? On separate paper, briefly describe the disagreement and write your answers to these questions. Use fictitious names to protect others’ privacy.