

Activity 22

Causes of Conflicts

Directions: Five conflicts are described below. Identify the cause of each conflict.

1. In confidence, Paula tells her friend Marissa that her parents are getting a divorce. Marissa mentions Paula's problem to another friend, Nicole. At lunch, Paula overhears Nicole telling two other people about the divorce. Outraged, Paula shouts at Marissa and Nicole that they've betrayed her and that she'll never trust them again.

Cause: _____

2. Jaime is new in school. His family recently moved to the area from Mexico. One morning he finds graffiti painted on the door of his locker. He sees some boys laughing and angrily accuses them of writing the words.

Cause: _____

3. Tom and his girlfriend Lila decided to meet after school at the Taco Hut. Tom waited for Lila for two hours and then went home furious. He called Lila and found that she was also angry. After a long argument, they realized that each had waited at a different Taco Hut.

Cause: _____

4. Louise's mother gives Louise two tickets to a rock concert for her birthday. Louise's brother, Darnell, also likes the band that is playing. When Darnell finds out that Louise has invited her best friend to the concert instead of him, he becomes angry. He hardly speaks to his mother and turns his radio up all the way while Louise is trying to concentrate on her homework.

Cause: _____

5. As they walk out of a horror film they've just seen together, Marco and Sam begin to talk. Sam says that he hated the movie, and Marco can't believe it. Marco thought it was great. Sam tells Marco that he has no taste if he thinks that movie was good. Marco is insulted and storms out of the lobby.

Cause: _____