

Trustworthiness

What Is Your Pillar Profile?

As you have read, your actions are even more important than your words or your thoughts. Answer the questions below (honestly!) and take a look at your Pillar Profile. Take pride in the areas where you score 4 and 5. Look at the other areas as places to focus on improvement.

Rating System:

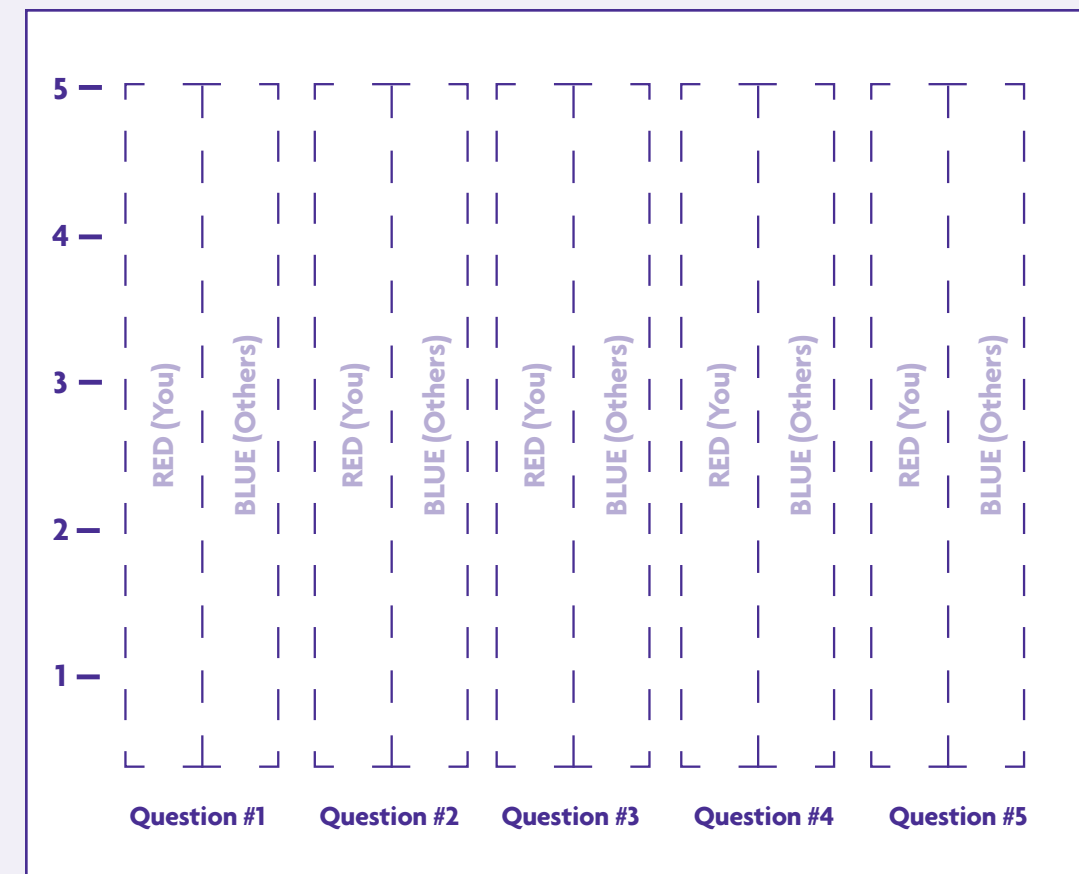
- 5. I always show this quality. No improvement needed.
- 4. I almost always show this quality. A little improvement needed.
- 3. I usually show this quality. Some improvement needed.
- 2. I sometimes show this quality. Improvement needed.
- 1. I almost never show this quality. A lot of improvement needed.

		(Circle the rating)
1. I tell the truth even when it may cost me	5 4 3 2 1	
2. I am sincere—I am not deceptive, tricky, or misleading	5 4 3 2 1	
3. I am candid and forthright—I volunteer information others need to know	5 4 3 2 1	
4. I honor other people's property—I do not steal	5 4 3 2 1	
5. I keep promises—I follow through on commitments and responsibilities	5 4 3 2 1	

My Pillar Profile

Instructions:

1. Graph your answers by coloring each left-hand bar to the height of your rating for each question 1-5.
2. Color your bars in red
3. Ask a friend or a family member to rate you on questions 1-5.
4. Graph your friend's or family's response by coloring blue next to your red bars.



When you're done, ask your friends to rate you on each question. See how their answers compare to yours. Is there a difference between the red and the blue bars? How do your friends and family see you? In turn, you can also rate them!

Make the Right Choices:

Here are some questions to help you review the key concepts of trustworthiness.

1. Which is NOT one of the four basic principles of trustworthiness?
a. integrity **b.** honesty **c.** promise-keeping **d.** vanity **e.** loyalty
2. Integrity is measured by how your ethics match your:
a. ideas **b.** thoughts **c.** actions **d.** friends **e.** role models
3. Having courage is about:
a. trying new things **b.** pursuing goals **c.** persevering (not giving up)
d. overcoming fears **e.** all of these (a,b,c,d)
4. What are the two types of honesty?
a. in writing and in music **b.** with friends and with family
c. simple and complicated **d.** easy and hard
e. in communication and in conduct
5. Which is NOT a kind of lie?
a. exaggeration **b.** promising what you cannot deliver
c. leaving something out on purpose **d.** using misleading words or phrases
e. these are all kinds of lies
6. Promise-keeping is a key part of being:
a. reliable **b.** smart **c.** friendly **d.** efficient **e.** funny
7. Which is NOT a part of loyalty?
a. being a good friend **b.** keeping confidences (secrets) **c.** being polite to others
d. sticking up for your friends, family, school, and country
e. looking out for those who care about you

8. Being honest in communication means:
a. being right all the time **b.** being truthful, sincere, and candid
c. being critical even if it hurts someone's feelings
d. being kind, even if you have to exaggerate
e. telling others what they want to hear
9. A person with integrity shows:
a. talent **b.** consistency **c.** concern for the environment **d.** cleanliness
e. athletic ability
10. Which is NOT an aspect of integrity?
a. self-knowledge **b.** commitment to ethical principles **c.** courage
d. self-discipline **e.** brute strength

Read, Think, and Understand

Read the following tale about trustworthiness. Then answer the questions.

Mercury and the Woodsman (adapted from a fable by Aesop)

A woodsman was chopping down a tree on the bank of a river. One especially hard blow to the trunk caused his axe to fly out of his hands and into the nearby water.

As he stood at the water's edge lamenting the loss of his axe, the winged Mercury appeared. "What is wrong, my good woodsman?" Mercury asked. "I have just lost my best axe to the river," the woodsman replied.

Feeling pity for the man, Mercury dived into the river and reappeared moments later holding a beautiful golden axe. "Is this the axe you lost?" Mercury inquired. The woodsman replied, "No, that is not my axe."

Mercury then dived into the river a second time. This time he reappeared with a shiny silver axe. "Is this your axe?" Mercury questioned. "No, that is not my axe"

either,” the woodsman replied.

Once more, Mercury dived into the water. This time, he reappeared with the missing axe. The woodsman was so grateful that he thanked Mercury many times and shook his hand repeatedly. Mercury was so pleased by the woodsman’s honesty, that he offered both the golden and the silver axes to the woodsman as a gift. Overjoyed, the woodsman ran back to his camp and told all his woodsmen friends about what had happened.

The next day, another woodsman went down to the river’s edge and began chopping at a tree. After a few swings, the woodsman loosened his grip and let the axe fly into the water. Only a few moments later, Mercury appeared and heard that this man, too, had lost his axe in the water.

Just as he had done before, Mercury dived down into the river and reappeared with a golden axe. “Is this your axe, sir?” Mercury inquired. “Yes! Yes! That’s it!” the man cried. “That’s my axe!” The man held out his hand to receive the golden prize, but Mercury was so disgusted by the woodsman’s dishonesty that he flung the golden axe back into the river. What’s more, Mercury also declined to recover the man’s rightful axe, which now remained lost forever.

THINK ABOUT THE STORY AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS:

1. The first woodsman lost his axe:
a. on purpose **b.** without knowing it **c.** because he was angry
d. by accident
2. Mercury helped the woodsman because:
a. the woodsman paid him **b.** the woodsman promised him something in return **c.** he felt sorry for the woodsman
d. he had nothing better to do
3. The second axe Mercury brought up from the water was:
a. broken **b.** the woodsman’s lost axe **c.** silver **d.** gold

4. The second woodsman lost his axe:
a. by accident **b.** on purpose **c.** late at night **d.** but didn’t care
5. Mercury did not help the second woodsman because:
a. the woodsman did not say “please” **b.** the woodsman was dishonest
c. he was tired of diving **d.** he didn’t like the woodsman’s beard

NAB THE VOCAB:

Do you know the meaning of the following words? For ones you don’t know, go back to the story and find them. See how they’re used. Then write your definition in the space provided.

1. lamenting: _____
2. pity: _____

Think About the Story

What is the main theme or key idea? What are the character traits that this story relates to? On a separate sheet of paper, write a paragraph explaining your answer.

Research, Read, and Write

Research one of the historical figures below. On a separate sheet of paper, write a paragraph about who he/she was, what he/she did, and which pillars of character you feel he/she exhibited.

Miep Gies

Mohandas Gandhi

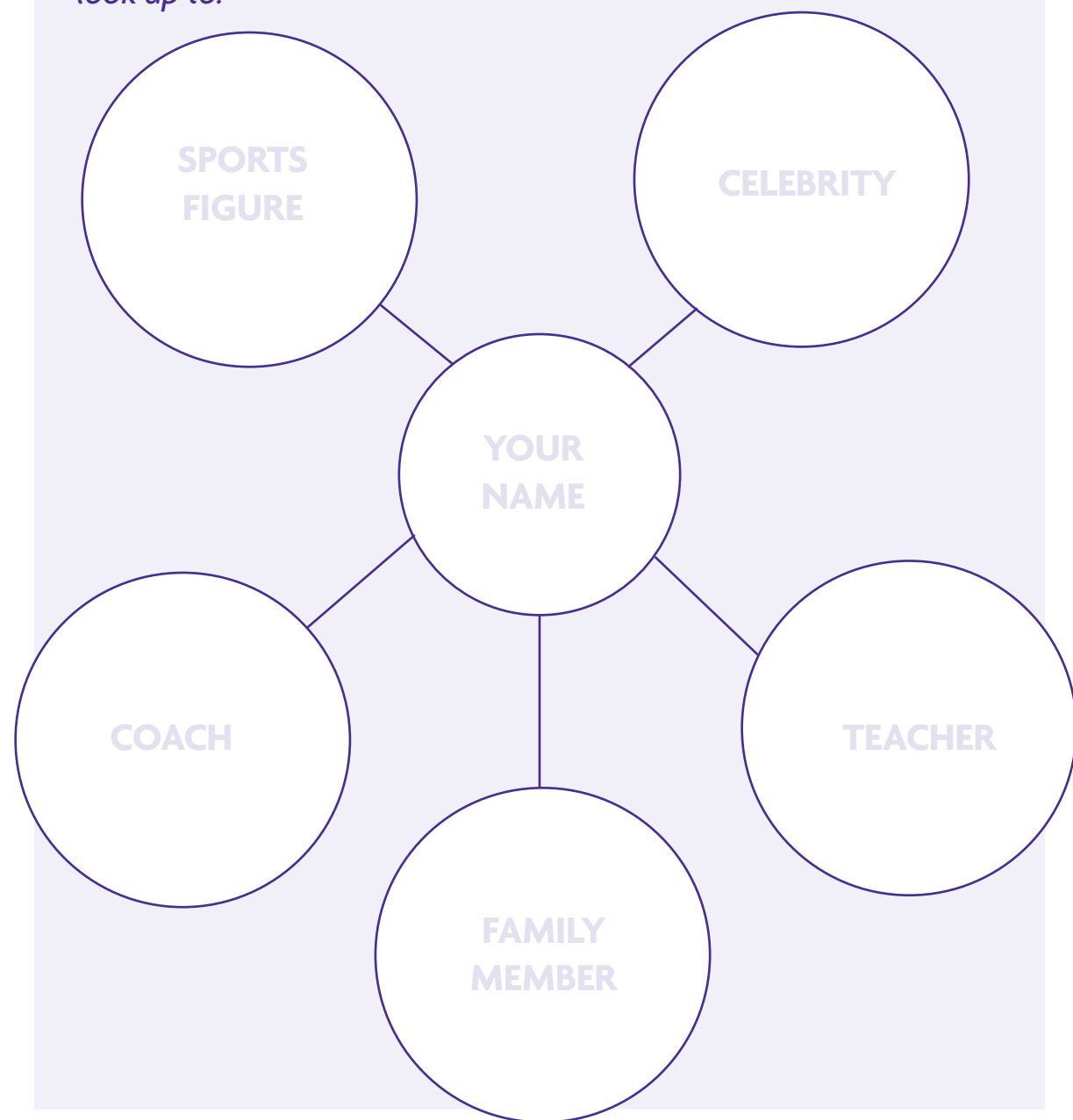
Jackie Robinson

Anne Frank

Eleanor Roosevelt

Your Role Models Diagram

Put your name in the center circle of the diagram. Inside each circle in the spokes, fill in the names of people you know who are your role models for trustworthiness. They can be people you know personally, or can be sports figures, celebrities, political leaders, or others you look up to.



Think and Write: You Said It!

Choose one of the following quotes and write about it on a separate sheet of paper. Explain what you think the quote means and how it might apply to your everyday life.

One man with courage makes a majority.

—Andrew Jackson, American General and U.S. President

If you don't want anyone to know, don't do it.

—Chinese proverb

Doing the best at this moment puts you in the best place for the next moment.

—Oprah Winfrey, American talk-show host, actress, businesswoman, and philanthropist

Essay Topic

Role Models from the Past and Present

Think about all the people in your life—family members, friends, teachers, coaches, community leaders. Who is the most trustworthy person you know? On a separate sheet of paper, write a brief essay explaining who the person is and why you chose him or her.

The Lighter Side

WORD SCRAMBLES

Unscramble the letters to make words about trustworthiness:

1. RACDON _____

2. RYSITCENI _____

3. THYONSE _____

4. FURULTTH _____

5. ALLYTYO _____

TRUSTWORTHINESS WORD SEARCH

Find the following people inside the letter maze:

Randy Duke Cunningham

Mahatma Gandhi

Dalai Lama

Martin Luther King, Jr.

Anne Frank

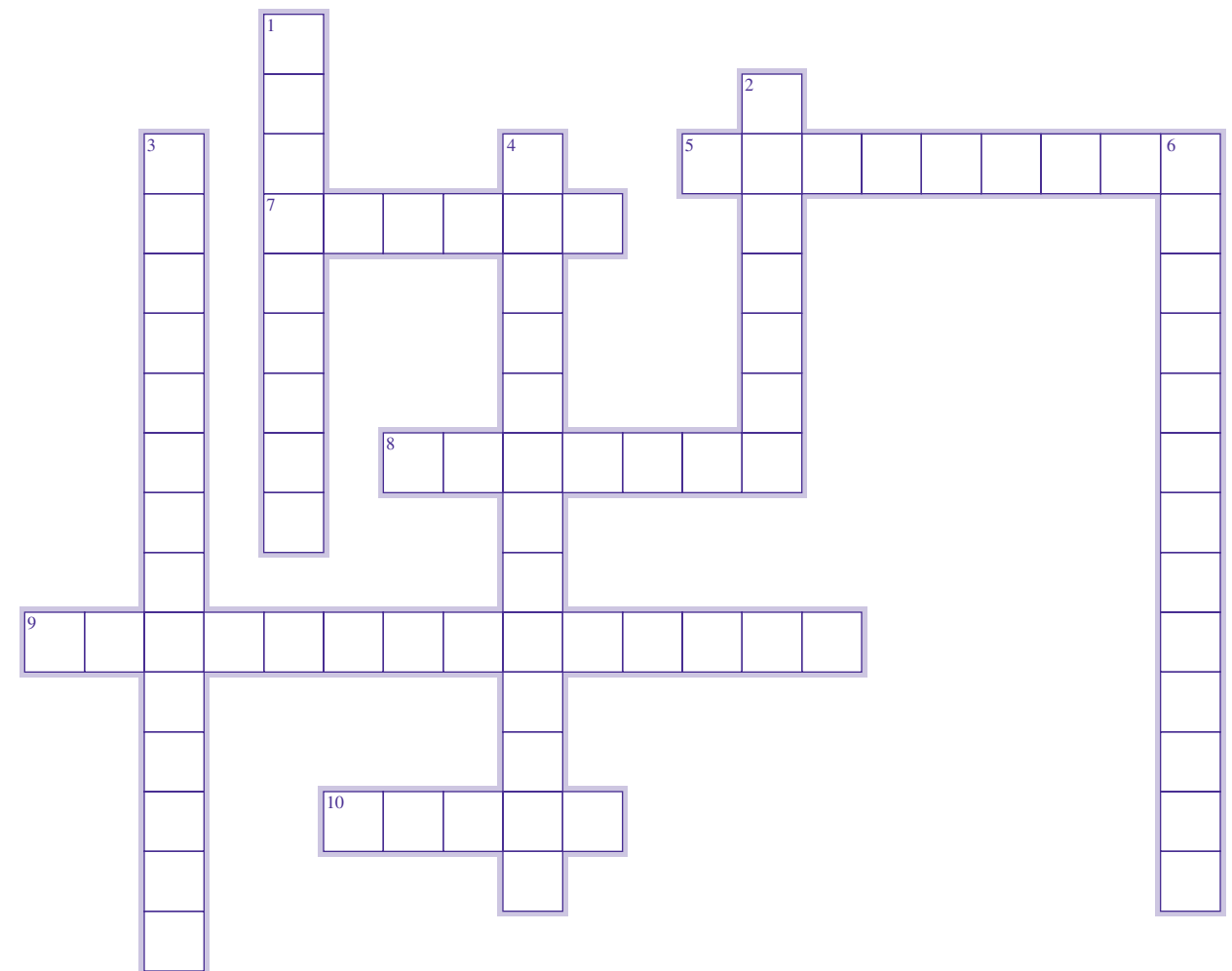
Miep Gies

Nelson Mandela

Desmond Tutu

M A R T I N L U T H E R K I N G J R S
M A H G N I N N U C E K U D E D N A A
E A H G N I A A E E E Y U D L D N A N
N A H A N I N A U C E J U E S D L A N
M A Z Y T I N E U C K K T D O I T A E
M A D E S M O N D T U T U O N D T P F
M D H M N I A N U R E K U D M D N A R
M A H N S I N G U C V K P D A D Q R A
X L L P N I N N A C E K U D N D N R N
M A H G N I N N U N E K U D D H F A K
Z I H R D E S M O N D T U T E D F A R
M L H E N D R N U C E H U D L D N X S
Q A H G N I N P U C E K I D A D R R S
M M H G N D N D U N F K U R Y S P A K
W A H G M I E P G I E S U Q E D D A B
M C D V N I N N U C E H U W Y A N T B
R A D G N V E E U C E K I D L D U A R
M X H B G I T I U N X F U D Y L D A K
M A H G N I N N U C E K U D Y D N A R

TRUSTWORTHINESS CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

5. World War II event that tried to eliminate Jews from Europe
7. being forthright with important information; saying or telling openly
8. one of the key parts of trustworthiness; truthfulness
9. female "whistleblower" who exposed fraud at Enron
10. company in Texas that committed fraud; Kenneth Lay was the CEO

Down

1. meaning what you say; speaking with true intentions
2. dedication to something or someone; allegiance
3. follow through on a commitment; making good on your word
4. dialog; written or verbal interaction
6. "Do Unto Others as you Would Have Them Do Unto You."