**English Teacher’s Seminar**

**What a true friend is?**

**Prepared by**

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**School (levels I – III ) # 1**

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**Subject: What a True Friend Is?**

**Objective:** to review topical vocabulary, to practice in reading and writing, to develop speaking habits, to improve grammar skills, to encourage students’ creativeness, to stimulate creative and critical thinking, to develop students’ aesthetic tastes, to broaden their outlook, to bring up the highest moral values.

**Equipment:** textbooks, exercise-books, vocabularies, a cassette, a tape-recorder, CD-R, musical centre, students’ projects, tables, topical cards.

**Procedure.**

1. **Introduction.**
2. **Greeting.**
3. **Warming-up.**

**Teacher’s opening address:**

In the rush of everyday pressures, it’s so easy to take a special friendship like ours for granted… Maybe because we’ve known each other so long and been through so many good and bad times together, we just don’t think about how it would be if we weren’t there for each other. So, I just wanted to take a little time to tell you how much I cherish our friendship, and to thank you for being such a special person in my life. I think everyone would like to be an addressee of such pleasant and touching words.

When we are 14, 15 we become thoughtful over different serious things, try to solve different problems, and to answer so many questions: What is Love?, What is happiness?, What are the main values of our life?.

Let’s imagine such a situation: your best friend told you a lie and you soon discover it. What would you do? How would you behave?

**Students’ answers:**

I would leave him/her forever. I would quarrel with him/her.

I would find out the reason. I would forgive him because I am not ideal myself.

I would give him the same lesson.

Of course, people are different in character and behaviour. And your reaction is also different. But today we’ll try to find out the idea of true friendship and how to make loyal friends.

First of all let’s remember all the words you know to describe a real, true friend.

1. **Main part.**
2. **Vocabulary Review (** kind-hearted, unselfish, generous, devoted, faithful, willing to help, friendly, open-hearted, thankful, attentive, honest, brave, cheerful, modest, noble, courageous, serious, polite, clever, careful, wise, sincere, truthful ).
3. **Brainstorming.**

**T:** Make a spidergram “What friendship means.”

assistance – help – love – confidence –

- good mood - **Friendship –** forgiveness -

- companionship – understanding

**3. Reading.**

**a) Pre-reading task.**

Work in two groups and write down the words, denoting emotions friendship can arouse in us ( positive and negative ).

warmth despair

optimism treachery

devotion contempt

faithfulness pessimism

loyalty ambition

charm tension

friendliness insecurity

confidence weakness

strength irritation

generosity

frankness

**b) While-reading task.**

Read the text( “Friendship ”) and be ready to identify the principles of true friendship.

**Friendship.**

The richest people in the world are not those with the most money, but those with close friends. Sincere friendship is truly a priceless gift. To have a friend is to add immeasurably to the quality of our life. Our deepest need is friendship. We all need friendship – no matter how self-sufficient, wealthy or successful we are. We are incomplete without it. Through friendship there comes hope when we are discouraged, comfort when we are hurt, counsel when we need it. If we want friends, we ourselves must be friendly. In fact, the only way to have a friend is to be one.

There are many principles of friendship, consider a few of them.

A friend is one you can totally rely on; you feel free and there is no need to pretend. You can share your deepest feelings, thoughts and fears, and always expect understanding. So you must be open.

Loyalty is another ingredient of friendship. The closer people get to know each other, the deeper they may hurt each other. Remember that trust once broken is hard to restore.

One more vital characteristic of friendship is care. There are many ways to express it: an approving look, an appreciative touch, or just being together. Honesty is another attribute of friendship.

We are to be frank.

Friendship demands selflessness and time. But the treasure we receive is immeasurable compared to the price we pay.

**c) Post-reading tasks.**

1. What are the main principles of true friendship? Write them down on the poster on the blackboard to remember.

**Reciprocity Openness Understanding**

**Frankness True Friendship Loyalty**

**Honesty Care**

* Find out what person can be a true friend. Match two halves of the sentences.

1. A friend shares with you…
2. A friend sees the best in you…
3. A friend believes you first…
4. A friend brings out the best in you…
5. A friend is someone you can always rely on…
6. A friend can tell when you need a hug…
7. A friend never passes up the chance…
8. A friend understands you…
9. A friend tells you when you are about…

10) A friend makes you laugh…

a) even if you are not showing.

b) and doesn’t hesitate to offer it to you.

c) when you see little to laugh about.

d) and rumours second.

e) to encourage you.

f) even chocolate.

g) to make a mistake.

h) even if you don’t deserve it.

i) but doesn’t insist on the credit.

j) even when you don’t.

**4. Group work.**

Chose one of the quotations and tell us how you understand it.

**S1:” A friend believes you first and romours second.”**

Sometimes some cruel people can say not very pleasant things about you. But a true friend doesn’t listen to them. He will ask you first.

**S2: “A friend shares with you even chocolate.”**

A true friend is never greedy. He is ready to share what he has with you.

**S3: “ When I lent I had a friend when I asked I lost him.”**

Some people are nice only when they want something. They only use and don’t give anything.

**S4:” No friend’s a friend till he will prove a friend”.**

When we are friends we must do as friends do. Sometimes we only say we have friendly relations. But we must remember that our deeds are our best words.

**S5: “ True friend is a plant of slow growth.”**

It is not easy to conquer one’s respect, trust, understanding. We need enough time.

**Pair work.** Act a conversation between two friends using one of the quotations. Students try to guess the quotation.

**A:** Oh, Olha! I was greatly impressed by your biology report yesterday. Well don**e!**

**B:** Thank you. I was so nervous about it. It’s not a simple task to speak in public.

**A:** But you had worked hard and made everybody interested. I am proud of you.

**(“ A friend never passes up the chance to encourage you.”)**

**C:** Oh, Nick! Do you know Bob offended you?

**D:** I told him everything I thought about his behaviour at the party.

**C:** Oh, I understand. He didn’t like it.

**“ He will never have true friends who is afraid of making enemies.”**

**E:** Can you imagine, Ann invited almost all classmates to her birthday party except me!

**F:** Really? That’s strange…

**E:** I thought we were friends, but…

**“ Friends are like melons. Shall I tell you why? To find one good you must a hundred try.”**

**G:** Do you think Jack will like your present?

**H:** Of, course. I know all his needs and tastes.

**G:** Are you sure?

**“A friend is a second self, another I.”**

**5. Making associations.** Close your eyes and try to associate friendship with something. What is it? (I. Krutoi “ When I close my eyes…” – instrumental composition).

**S1:** Friendship for me is like the sea. When friends understand each other, it is warm. But when the friends quarrel, it is stormy and cold.

**S2:** I imagine friendship like spring. It can be sunny and pleasant with charming flowers. But sometimes it is nasty and flowers can die.

**S3:** Friendship is like water. We drink it every day and always need it.

**S4:** Friendship is like the sun. It lights our life road.

**S5:** Friendship is like the wind that gives us power to sail along the life.

**6. Project work ( If I were a psychologist ).** The problem: to find out if people know their friends well enough and share the results with th**e** class.

**7. A character sketch of a loyal friend and true friendship** (students’ answers ).

**Samples:**

There are a lot of lonely people who live in the houses of their loneliness in spite of the crowd, noise and songs outside. They have a deep sense of emptiness inside. Such people try to fill it with money, career, job but they fail. People try to find something to substitute happiness in their souls but all these things are temporal and the feeling of emptiness never leaves them. I think it is terrible to be lonely and I am happy to have a friend. I have friendly relations with many children but the best friend is only one. His name is Yaroslav. He is a ninth-former. We do not study at the same school, we are neighbours. I think that the main thing that unites us is our common hobby – football. We are football fans and not bad players. Besides, we spend much free time together, playing computer games, discussing different interesting things and problems. Sometimes we quarrel but try to make peace. It’s so nice to have someone to need, to trust, to believe and not to be lonely.

**8. T – S-s’ conversation ( What is more important? )**

Name 5 the richest people in the world , the most beautiful women , 5 Nobel Prize or Oskar winners. It’s difficult, isn’t it? Don’t worry , nobody remembers this information. Applause die away. Prizers are covered with dust . The winners are forgotten. And now try to remember some of those friends who helped you in difficulties, some of your best teachers, five men you’d like to spend your spare time with. Try to remember those evoking your best feelings. It is easier, isn’t it? Those people are not the richest , they didn’t win the greatest prizes. But they take care of you and stay put inspite of everything.

Composers write songs about those people and poets dedicate them their poems.

**9. Authorial song “ My friend”** .

Inthe cruel and beautiful world

Try to find you, my real friend,

Honest, noble and smart, and brave,

My friend.

So I know you will be next

In the happiest and in the worst,

Warm my soul with all your strength,

My friend.

**Refrain:** My friend,

Real and faithful friend,

You are my star(gift) in the world,

My dear friend.

In your walking through our land

Not to fall and not to fail,

My friend.

I do know you’ll be OK

In the running of every day,

For the God will receive my pray

For a friend.

**10. S1.** He that is your friend indeed,

He will help you in your need:

If you sorrow, he will weep;

If you wake, he can not sleep.

**S2.** Thus of every grief in heart,

These are certain signs to know

Faithful friends from flattering foe.

**S3.** There is a miracle called friendship

That dwells within the Heart

And you don’t know how it happens

or when it gets its start...

**S4.** But the happiness it brings you,

Always brings a special lift,

And you realize that friendship

is God’s most precious gift.

**10. English grammar in proverbs, sayings, quotations about friendship.**

Note in them different grammar phenomena.

1. Be slow in choosing a friend, slower in changing him.
2. Books and friends should be few, but good.
3. Prosperity makes friends, but advercity tries them.
4. The best of friends must part.
5. He who chatters to you will chatter of you.
6. A man is known by the company he keeps.
7. If you land your money, you’ll lose your friend.
8. Friendship is not to be bought at a fair.
9. When I lent I had a friend, when I asked, I was unkind.

10)Success has many friends.

11)A broken friendship may be soldered, but will never be sound.

**11. Teacher’s Closing Speech.**

**III. Home assignment.** Write an e-mail letter to your friend about our today’s lesson.