

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: Your 3rd Grade Sportsmanship Dilemma Challenge

Third graders synthesize ethical choices and evaluate complex social scenarios to build leadership skills on the playground.

1. During a kickball game, the ball hits the line. You are the only one who saw it land out of bounds, but the referee called it 'in,' giving your team the win. What is the most honorable choice?

Answer: B) Politely tell the official it was out, prioritizing the integrity of the game over a win.

Advanced sportsmanship requires 'synthesis'—combining the rules of the game with your personal honesty to ensure the outcome is fair for everyone.

2. True or False: If an opponent is far better than you at a sport, respect means you should let them win without trying your hardest.

Answer: B) False

Respecting an opponent means giving them your best effort; playing poorly on purpose is actually disrespectful to their skill and the spirit of competition.

3. A player who loses a championship but remains positive and encourages the winning team is practicing ____, which is a sign of emotional maturity.

Answer: B) graceful losing

Graceful losing is a high-level social skill where a person manages their disappointment to show respect for the effort of others.

4. In a mountain biking race, a competitor's chain snaps right before the finish line. You are right behind them. Which action demonstrates the highest ethical standard?

Answer: B) Stop to check if they are injured before deciding whether to finish the race.

Advanced sportsmanship involves 'evaluation'—judging when the safety and well-being of a person are more important than the results of a game.

5. True or False: Challenging a referee's decision is acceptable as long as you use a calm, respectful voice and follow the proper league process.

Answer: A) True

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Professionalism in sports allows for civil disagreement, provided it is done through the correct channels (like a team captain) and without aggression.

6. When a team is much stronger than their opponents, they demonstrate ____ by not 'running up the score' or trying to embarrass the other players.

Answer: A) humility

Humility in winning shows that you value the dignity of the other team more than showing off your own power.

7. You notice a teammate is making fun of a player on the other team for wearing old sneakers. As a leader, what is your responsibility?

Answer: C) Pull your teammate aside and explain that respect applies to everyone, regardless of their gear.

Ethical behavior involves peer-to-peer scaffolding, where students help hold each other accountable to high standards of character.

8. True or False: Sportsmanship only matters during the game, not before the warm-up or after you leave the field.

Answer: B) False

Character is a consistent trait; sportsmanship extends to how you treat the facilities, the bus driver, and the fans even after the clock stops.

9. During a gymnastics meet, if a judge makes a mathematical error in your favor, reporting it to ensure the scores are ____ is an act of total integrity.

Answer: C) accurate

Integrity is the choice to value truth and accuracy over personal gain, which is a core pillar of fair play.

10. Why is it important to thank an official after a game, even if you think they made several mistakes during the match?

Answer: C) To acknowledge their essential role and show respect for the effort they put into the game's structure.

This requires synthesis of the 'Respect for Officials' concept, recognizing that officials are human and deserve appreciation for making the competition possible.