



# Friendship

**DIRECTIONS:** A friend is someone to whom you are attached by affection and esteem, according to the dictionary. Friends often share hobbies and a network of acquaintances. Here is a definition that raises the standard for friendship: "Friends in the highest sense of the term are those who make conscientious efforts to take ethics and personal character seriously and inspire each other to be better – in thought, in action, in life." (Russell Gough, Character is Destiny, September 1998)

## GOOD FRIENDS

**1.** Find a comic, column, or story in the newspaper that involves friends.

- a. What do they share?
- b. How do they influence each other?
- c. Do they inspire each other to be better – in thought, in action, in life? Explain.

## A FRIEND WITH A PROBLEM

**2.** Find a newspaper story about someone with a problem.

- a. Who has the problem and what is it?
- b. How might a true friend step in to help this person?
- c. How might a friend's response be different from Dear Abby's or a trained counselor's?

## A FRIEND IN TROUBLE

**3.** Find a newspaper story about someone in trouble.

- a. What poor decision did this person make?
- b. Who influenced him or her?
- c. How might a friend help this person make better choices, to be better in thought, in action and in life?