

Different Views—Feelings, Too!

In Lesson 1, you described the perspectives, or points of view, of different people who observed the same scenario after school one day.

Read the scenario again, but now imagine how each person might have felt. Sad? Afraid? Angry? Impatient? Jealous? Guilty? What else?

JASMINE AND ROBERT: TAKE 2

Jasmine and Robert have been going out for over two months. But lately Jasmine has seen Robert talking with a new girl at school, Monica. Jasmine really doesn't like this, and one day she confronts Monica after school. As their voices get louder, a crowd gathers. Robert is there, and so is Monica's sister. All of a sudden, Jasmine pushes Monica to the ground and starts to hit her. Another student, Maria, runs to get the principal. The principal comes quickly to the scene.

What do you think each person was probably FEELING at that moment?

Jasmine: _____

Robert: _____

Monica: _____

Monica's sister: _____

Maria: _____

The principal: _____

You (imagine you were there in the crowd): _____

STORY 2: FINDERS KEEPERS

After football practice, Oscar was the last one in the locker room. As he was getting ready to leave, he found \$200 in a money clip on the bench. He didn't know whose money it was and thought about whether he should keep it.

How do you think Oscar feels? _____

How do you think the person who left the money feels? _____

What should Oscar do?

Would it matter if he had found the money at a mall instead of in the locker room? Why or why not?

STORY 3: BULLIES AND VICTIMS

Marcus and his friends were popular at school, but they were also mean. They particularly picked on one student, Jesse, who never really did anything to them. They would call him names at lunch, do different pranks on him, tease him, and spread rumors about him. Michael, who was also part of the popular group, decided to stop picking on Jesse, but Marcus kept it up.

How do you think Jesse feels? _____

How do you think Michael feels? _____

How do you think Marcus feels? _____

What do you think would be a good solution?

The Victim's View

An important way to increase empathy is to try to understand the perspective and feelings of people who have been harmed or damaged by certain actions.

Read each of the following stories and fill in the blanks.

STORY 1: THE CORNER STORE

Hakeem S owns a small corner store. Lately, business has been very bad. To make things worse, his wife has been sick and has run up large medical bills that he is unable to pay. One morning, Mr. S comes to his store and finds that he has been burglarized. Over \$15,000 worth of merchandise has been taken—all uninsured. The police catch the burglar, an unemployed 17-year-old named Roger. Mr. S asks to talk to Roger. He wants Roger to understand how he feels and how the burglary affects him.

Mr. S says:

STORY 2: MEAN GIRLS

Jessica and Maria are in seventh grade at Coleman Middle School. They have been friends for as long as they can remember. When a new girl, Vanessa, tries to be friends with them and sit with them at lunch, they act nice to her but immediately start talking about her behind her back after she leaves. They also notice that the boys seem to be really interested in Vanessa, which makes them like her even less. They start switching lunch tables as soon as they see her coming toward them.

One day, they pretend to be nice, but Maria takes some funny pictures of Vanessa on her cell phone. She and Jessica decide to post the pictures on the Internet with a mean story telling everyone