


 PSI  
#20

# ARE YOU A LEADER?

The best leaders are the ones in charge, right? Not always. People in power aren't necessarily good leaders. It takes the right attitudes to be a good leader—someone who motivates others to get things done.



**Read questions 1–10. Circle A, B, or C for each one. Be as honest as you can!**

1. You're working with a group to solve a problem. How do you feel when someone comes up with an idea that's obviously better than yours?
  - A. threatened
  - B. embarrassed
  - C. interested
2. You're working with a group on a project. How do you feel about your ideas compared to everyone else's ideas?
  - A. yours aren't as good
  - B. yours are better
  - C. yours are as good, but not necessarily better
3. What happens when you try to get "big ideas" across to other people?
  - A. they don't listen
  - B. they listen, but they don't "get it"
  - C. they usually listen and understand
4. You've been working on a project for a long time. So far, no one has given you any praise or feedback. What do you do?
  - A. get discouraged and quit
  - B. drop it and move on to a different idea
  - C. finish the project because you want to
5. You're invited to participate in a project—as a follower, not a leader. How do you feel about this?
  - A. good, because you're not comfortable leading anyway
  - B. you won't participate if you can't be the leader
  - C. you don't mind being a follower sometimes
6. What happens when you fail at something you try to do?
  - A. you quit because failing proves you're no good
  - B. you quit because others just don't realize how good you are
  - C. you try to learn something from the failure that will help you succeed in the future

7. If you were in charge of a group project, how would you handle it?
- A. let the others do most of the work
  - B. do it all yourself to be sure it's done right
  - C. break up the project into smaller parts, then assign them to people according to their skills and interests
8. How do you feel about working with people whose backgrounds are different from yours?
- A. uncomfortable about their differences
  - B. superior or inferior to them
  - C. interested in and respectful of their unique points of view
9. When someone gives you honest criticism, this makes you...
- A. hate yourself
  - B. angry
  - C. look for ways to improve
10. What do you do if you have a setback—if things don't go the way you want them to?
- A. dwell on your past mistakes and how things could have been
  - B. blame other people for your setback
  - C. look for positive ways to move forward

## WHAT'S YOUR STYLE?

**TOTAL YOUR A'S, B'S, AND C'S.**

**A'S**

**B'S**

**C'S**

- 7 or more A's mean you may need more confidence in yourself before you can be a good leader.
- 7 or more B's mean you may need more confidence in other people before you can be a good leader.
- 7 or more C's mean you probably have a realistic view of yourself and other people. You have the right attitudes to be a good leader.

If you scored lower than you hoped on leadership attitudes, try to figure out why. Do you lack confidence in yourself, or in other people? At some point in your life, you will probably be asked to lead. Working on good leadership attitudes can help you, even if you don't want to be the leader all the time.

## Find Out MORE

- \* Ask your parents if you can lead a family outing—a picnic, a shopping trip, a ball game. Afterward, find out what your parents think of your leadership style.
- \* Who's your favorite leader? This can be a friend, a family member, someone in your community, even a world leader. What makes you look up to and admire this person? Write down a list of his or her qualities. Which of these qualities do you have?

**"Ah well! I am their leader, I really ought to follow them."**

—Alexandre Auguste Ledru-Rolling,  
lawyer and politician

