THOUGHTS ON
FRIENDSHIP

“A true friend is someone who is there for you when he’d rather be anywhere else.”
Len Wein

According to Robert Louis Stevenson, “A friend is a present you give yourself.” No matter what our age, friends are very precious. Write about the friendships that have been important to you, either now or in the past.

Getting started

Choose from the questions below to help you write:

1. Of all the people you have known, who have been your closest friends? Tell a bit about each of these special people. When were you friends (preschool, first grade, middle school, now)? What did you do together? What kinds of support did you give each other? Can you tell a favorite story about each friend?

2. What is most important to you in a friendship? Explain.

3. Have you ever gone on an adventure with a friend? What happened?

4. Have you ever been deeply hurt by a friend or someone you thought was a friend? How did you handle that?

5. Within your family, who has been your best friend? Explain.

6. Did you ever have a friend move away? How did you handle that? Were you able to continue the friendship?

7. What kind of people do you like to spend time with? Are you a member of a group? How important is “belonging” to you?

8. What qualities do your friends bring out in you? Do different friends bring out different qualities? Explain.

9. What do you give to your friends?

10. What can people learn about you by looking at your friends?

11. How does peer pressure affect you? Has it ever helped you? Has it ever caused you problems?
To me life has meaning because we love.
Eleanor Roosevelt

There is a reason romantic love remains such a popular theme in books and movies: It is a subject that is important to all of us, at least at some point in our lives. Tell about the romance and love in your life.

Getting started

Choose from the questions below to help you write:

1. What family stories do you know about love and romance? For example, do you know how your parents or grandparents met and married? Are there family stories about lost love, jilted brides, arranged marriages, elopements, unusual courtships or long, happy marriages?

2. Describe your first crush. How old were you? Who was the object of your love? How did things work out?

3. What are your thoughts about dating? If you aren’t allowed to date yet, how do you feel about that? Would you like to start dating? What observations can you make about people your age and dating? What problems do you see with dating? What benefits? What would you change?

4. What qualities (not physical features) of the opposite sex are attractive to you? Be specific.

5. How do you feel about marriage? Do you think you will get married some day? If so, how do you hope the marriage will be similar to marriages you have seen? How do you hope it will be different?

6. Do you think people your age can be in love? Why or why not?