

Growing Minds in Language Arts #1

Lessons for Stimulating Thinking

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Altered Axioms

A. The following eight sentences are familiar sayings that have been mixed up. Tell why you think these sentences do or do not make sense. Do some of them make any sense at all? How?

1. Honesty begins at home.

2. Money is a dangerous thing.

3. Beauty is its own reward.

4. Imitation is next to godliness.

5. A little learning is the root of all evil.

6. Virtue is only skin-deep.

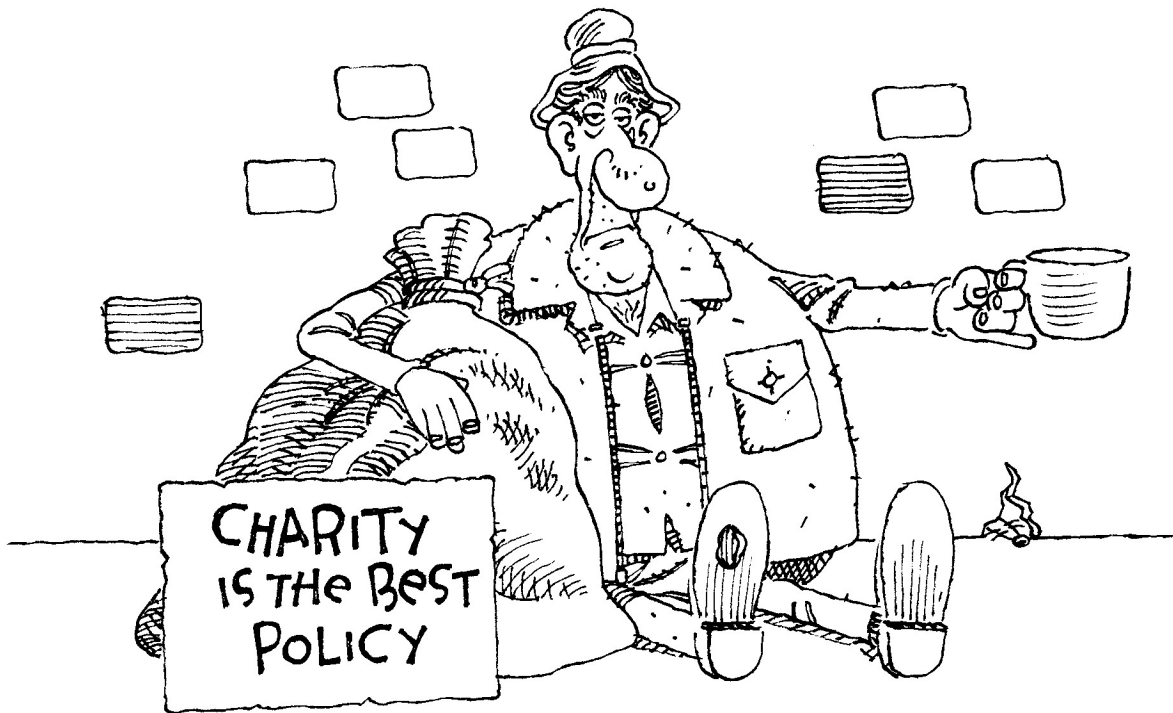
7. Charity is the best policy.

8. Cleanliness is the sincerest form of flattery.

B. Words from each axiom have been scrambled among the eight sentences above. Unscramble the sentences into their original sayings below.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

C. Are you skeptical about any of the above sayings? If so, explain why. If not, choose two or three to justify.



Call It Courage

A. When John F. Kennedy wrote *Profiles in Courage*, he had in mind a different kind of courage than the kind that is demonstrated daily by ordinary people. The ordinary person is courageous in ways that are commonplace. Noticed by relatively few people, these acts are nevertheless courageous. For example, it takes courage to struggle to get out of bed, strain to get into a wheelchair, or go look for a job.

Who is the most courageous person you know personally? Tell why you think he or she is so courageous.

B. Does it take more courage to:

- jump from the highest diving board when you are afraid of heights, or to stand up to a bully?
Explain your answer.

- admit that you don't know what you are talking about, or to go to the dentist when you haven't gone for a long time? Why do you feel that way?

- tell your best friend the truth when the truth will really hurt him or her, or to drive in traffic for the first time? Why do you think so?

- say "No, thanks" when everybody else is doing it, or to get up before a group of people and give a speech? Explain your answer.
