

An Attitude for Gratitude



Name

School

Class

About you...

What is your gender? (please tick the correct box)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Male
<input type="checkbox"/>	Female

What is your ethnicity?

<input type="checkbox"/>	White-British	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chinese
<input type="checkbox"/>	White-Irish	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other Asian Background
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other White Background	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mixed - White and Black Caribbean
<input type="checkbox"/>	Black British-Caribbean	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mixed - White and Black African
<input type="checkbox"/>	Black British-African	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mixed - White and Asian
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other Black Background	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other Mixed Background
<input type="checkbox"/>	Asian British-Indian	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other Ethnic Background, please state
<input type="checkbox"/>	Asian British-Pakistani	<input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	Asian British-Bangladeshi	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rather not say

What is your religion?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Christianity	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sikhism
<input type="checkbox"/>	Buddhism	<input type="checkbox"/>	Athiest (non-believer)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Judaism	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other, please state
<input type="checkbox"/>	Islam	<input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hinduism	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rather not say

Do you practise your religion?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
<input type="checkbox"/>	No
<input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	Rather not say

Are you a UK citizen?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
<input type="checkbox"/>	No, please state your country of citizenship
<input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know

Shooting Hoops

Liz Gulliford

It was one of the long hot days of summer. Liam, Jade and Dinesh had been jumping on the trampoline in Liam's back garden. They had been taking it in turns to have a go but now they were lying back on the grass wondering what to do next.

'I love this trampoline,' Dinesh enthused. 'I wish we had one.'

'I thought it was great at first,' said Liam. 'I was on it all the time. But after a while the novelty wears off a bit. You get bored.'

The trio fell silent. Liam felt a bit bad. His Dad told him that only boring people get bored. It didn't reflect very well on him...

'C'mon, let's shoot a few hoops,' said Liam, standing up.

They took it in turns to shoot Liam's new basketball at the ring. Liam's dad had put the hoop up for Liam's older sister, Caitlin, to practise for netball. She'd improved a lot since she'd put the time in practising, and had been chosen to play for the school. After a few minutes, and a couple of successful shots, Dinesh aimed badly and sent the ball flying over the wall. Everyone groaned. Mr Lucas, the neighbour who lived over the wall, wasn't always the friendliest of folks. He didn't hold back from voicing his displeasure at being disturbed. It wasn't that he didn't let children through to his garden to retrieve lost balls. It was just that he made a big deal of it and people felt awkward. Some people were quite friendly and didn't seem to mind being interrupted too much; Mr Lucas, it seemed, wasn't one of them.



There was an uncomfortable silence while the friends took in what had happened. Jade stood on a garden chair to see if she could see the ball. It had come to rest next to a watering can.

‘Well, it’s not gone far,’ she said. ‘I can see it.’

‘I’ll go and knock on his door to ask for it back,’ said Dinesh. ‘After all, it was me who sent it over.’

Let’s stop and think about the story so far:

Do you think Dinesh is being kind by getting the ball back?

Place one of your stickers on what you think is the right response below (there are no right or wrong answers here):

YES

NO

Why do you think that? (Write on the lines below)

If you were Liam how grateful would you be to Dinesh for getting the ball back?

REALLY
GRATEFUL

QUITE
GRATEFUL

A BIT
GRATEFUL

NOT VERY
GRATEFUL

NOT
GRATEFUL
AT ALL

Now let's carry on with the story...

Jade and Liam waited for the ball to come back over the fence. They heard Mr Lucas' back door opening and heard footsteps across the slabs outside his patio. They strained their ears to hear whether Mr Lucas was saying anything to Dinesh.

'There you go, son,' said Mr Lucas, just as the ball came back over the wall into Liam's garden. It didn't sound as though he was too cross about it. Perhaps he wasn't such a grump after all. Jade and Liam passed the ball between themselves until Dinesh returned a minute or so later.

'Who's got the most so far?'

'I have,' said Jade. It was true. Jade was much better at this game than either of the boys.

'What's your technique?' asked Liam.

'All you have to do is remember that wherever your arm is pointing when you release the ball, that's where the ball will go,' she replied. 'It's not rocket science.'

Liam aimed. He missed. He was starting to get frustrated and looked rather hot and bothered.

'Your arm was pointing to the left of the hoop,' said Jade. 'It was certain to miss. Line yourself up really carefully and watch that you don't let go of the ball until it's pointing in the right direction.'

Dinesh was next. He was a lot closer to getting it right this time with the ball bouncing off the edge of the frame. There was something quite addictive about the attempt to nail it. They persevered until Liam overshot and the ball went sailing off over the wall into Mr Lucas' garden again.

'Oh no, not again!' moaned Liam. 'Can you see it, Jade?' Jade was already up on the garden chair, peering over the wall.



‘Yes, it’s near the shed. Tell you what, I’ll get it. You look a bit hot under the collar.’

Jade came down from the chair and set off for Liam’s garden gate.

Let’s stop again and think about the story:

Do you think Jade is being kind by getting Liam’s ball back?

Place one of your stickers on what you think is the right response below (there are no right or wrong answers here):

YES

NO

Why do you think that? (Write on the lines below)

If you were Liam how grateful would you be to Jade for getting the ball back?

REALLY
GRATEFUL

QUITE
GRATEFUL

A BIT
GRATEFUL

NOT VERY
GRATEFUL

NOT
GRATEFUL
AT ALL

Back to the story...

A few minutes later Dinesh and Liam heard Mr Lucas opening the back door and showing Jade out into his garden. They waited patiently for the ball to reappear over the wall and awaited Jade's return. It came back. Liam started bouncing the ball. He passed it to Dinesh who attempted to spin the ball on his finger; he'd seen it done on TV but he soon discovered that it was harder than it looked. He threw the ball back to Liam.

'Mr Lucas seems alright to me,' said Jade as she walked towards the boys. 'Perhaps he's just lonely.'



'Or maybe he's sad about something,' said Dinesh. 'My Mum's boss at work was really struggling after she and her husband split up. You never know what's going on with people most of the time though...'

'No,' agreed Liam. The three looked at each other for a moment, thinking about Mr Lucas. Eventually, Liam broke the silence, 'Right! I'm going to get this ball in the hoop!'

Dinesh and Jade looked on as their friend took aim. Liam concentrated hard. His eyes narrowed as he steadied the ball and stared at the ring. The ball took flight and sailed straight through the hoop. He'd done it!

'Well done!' said Jade. 'That was a beauty!'

'Yes, nice one!' said Dinesh.

The friends carried on taking it in turns for another couple of minutes. They tried throwing from different angles and at different distances from the hoop. It was all going well until Dinesh tried to throw the basketball halfway across the garden. This was a bit ambitious and he overshot the net. The ball went over the other fence and into some bushes. The strip of land next to Liam's house belonged to the council. There were some bushes there and a bench, and a post box but it was a bit overgrown and people didn't sit to rest on the bench there as much as they used to.

'Well done!' said Liam a bit sarcastically. 'I'd better go and tell Mum what's happened.'

'I'll come with you,' said Dinesh. Both boys went into the house to ask Liam's Mum permission to go and get the ball back. While they were gone Jade decided to

have a go on the trampoline. After a few jumps she saw Dinesh and Liam over the fence.

‘Can you see it from where you are?’

‘Nope,’ she replied, bouncing back down. ‘It must be hidden in the bushes.’

‘I’m sorry I sent your ball over,’ said Dinesh to Liam. ‘I was getting a bit carried away.’

Dinesh kept looking and looking. It certainly wasn’t anywhere obvious. He glanced under the bench. It wasn’t there. He looked behind the post box. It wasn’t there either. It had to be in the bushes.

‘Have you seen it yet?’ shouted Jade from the trampoline.

‘No. Not yet,’ said Liam.

‘You’ve been looking for ages,’ Jade observed.

‘I know,’ said Dinesh. ‘But it’s got to be here somewhere. I’m going to find it.’

Eventually Dinesh caught sight of the ball in one of the plants near the fence. He realised that he would have to pick his way through some nettles to retrieve it.

‘Be careful,’ said Liam, noticing that what Dinesh was doing was a bit risky.

‘It’s OK,’ said Dinesh. ‘If I’m careful I’ll be able to reach it. It was my fault it went over.’

Dinesh carefully trod through the nettles until he reached the ball. He threw it over to Liam, and gingerly tiptoed his way out of the flower bed.



Let's stop again and think about the story:

Do you think Dinesh is being kind by getting Liam's ball back?

Place one of your stickers on what you think is the right response below (there are no right or wrong answers here):

YES

NO

Why do you think that? (Write on the lines below)

What qualities do you think Dinesh has shown by getting the ball back?
(Write on the lines below)

If you were Liam how grateful would you be to Dinesh for getting the ball back?

REALLY
GRATEFUL

QUITE
GRATEFUL

A BIT
GRATEFUL

NOT VERY
GRATEFUL

NOT
GRATEFUL
AT ALL

A few moments later, Dinesh and Liam returned to the garden with a jug of water and some cups. It was a hot day, remember! Jade stopped bouncing and the three sat down and had a drink.

‘I bet I could’ve got the ball in from where you were, Dinesh,’ said Liam.

‘You reckon?’ said Dinesh, finishing his drink. ‘Let’s see you then.’

Liam rose to his feet. He picked up the ball and walked to the spot where Dinesh had attempted the throw. It seemed an awfully long way from the hoop. Still, he felt he couldn’t back down now. Liam threw the ball with all his might. Unfortunately, he overdid it as well. The three looked on in horror as the ball went over the fence, just as it had for Dinesh.

‘I’m sick of this!’ said Liam.

‘Let’s just get the ball back and call it a day for today,’ said Jade.

The three friends picked up the jug and the cups and went inside. When they had thanked Liam’s mum for the drinks and given the cups back, they asked her if they could all go and look for the ball.

‘OK,’ she said, ‘don’t be long.’

Moments later the three friends began their search. They looked high and low. Inspired by Dinesh’s example, both Liam and Jade looked in the nettles. The ball was nowhere to be seen.

‘We can’t look for much longer,’ said Liam. ‘Mum’ll be wondering where we are’. He looked at his watch. ‘We’ve been gone ten minutes already.’

The friends looked for another five minutes until they were sure they couldn’t find the ball. Knowing it was a new ball, it was a bit disappointing.

‘It looked as if it had come this way,’ said Dinesh. ‘Perhaps it didn’t.’

‘Yes, it can be a bit difficult to tell,’ said Liam. ‘I think we had better go back. We’re not going to find it here.’

Let's stop one last time and think about the story:

Do you think Dinesh and Jade are being kind in trying to get Liam's ball back?

Place one of your stickers on what you think is the right response below (there are no right or wrong answers here):

YES

NO

Why do you think that? (Write on the lines below)

If you were Liam how grateful would you be to Jade and Dinesh for trying to get the ball back?

REALLY
GRATEFUL

QUITE
GRATEFUL

A BIT
GRATEFUL

NOT VERY
GRATEFUL

NOT
GRATEFUL
AT ALL

The three went back to Liam's house.

'We couldn't find it,' they said as Mrs Byrne opened the door.

'What a shame,' she said.

The three friends didn't feel like going outside again. Liam showed them into the sitting room and showed them a model spaceship he was putting together. After a few minutes there was a knock at the door. Mrs Byrne was busy putting a shelf up in the kitchen so she called to Liam to answer it. When he opened it Mr Lucas was standing on the front step with Liam's ball in his hands.

'I guess you didn't want to bother me a third time,' he said. 'I thought I'd bring it over.'

'Thank you,' said Liam. 'It's Mr Lucas,' he said calling to Dinesh and Jade. 'He's brought my ball back.'

'We thought it had gone over the fence near the post box,' said Jade. 'But it must have curved round into the end of your garden.'

'That's right,' he confirmed. 'That's where it was.'

'Thank you so much,' they all said excitedly. Liam was especially delighted he hadn't lost the ball for good. It seemed Mr Lucas wasn't such a bad guy after all.





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