

Friends and Friendship

by Lena

I wouldn't say that I have many friends whom I cherish dearly because I have a handful or dear friends, who are very important to me. Then I have other friends whom I like to be with and like but do not necessarily confide in because trust is, to me, very difficult to gain. I want my dearest friends' trust and reliance and feel it's important for them to feel the same.

A true friend, to me, is a person you can laugh with, cry with, talk to and simply have a good time with. Understanding is also significant. I must be able to understand my friend's feelings and so should she/he. I must completely trust that person and be able to confide in. I am not asking for no problems. Problems are important too. That way you can see if your friendship is solid enough to face the problems, deal with them and carry on.

I won't write (like many others) how nice, considerate and compassionate my best friend is like, although she is all that. My best friend is very stubborn. Stubborn as a mule. She is also very confident, sometimes too confident. She has too much pride in herself and never admits she is wrong. She is also too materialistic and cares a lot about unnecessary issues; such as label-marked clothes, make-up etc. But I truly admire her for being secretive. You can really rely on her and tell her anything.

I believe that you can have more than one best friend. Sometimes it's important to have two or more best friends to be able to give each other a little space and when you meet again, you have more to talk about.

I don't only meet my best friend alone. We also meet at parties, friend's house or at each other's house. We spend time with others, too.

I love my best friend, and truly hope she feels the same way.



Friends — Activities

- 1 How important are the following characteristics in a friend? Sort the descriptions by importance starting with the most important one.

reliability	generosity
being a good listener	discretion
strength	being funny
honesty	stubbornness
intelligence	helpfulness

- 2 Use the descriptions above and describe your friend, answering the question: "What is your friend like?"

- 3 Find a way to say the opposite of each characteristic, answering the question: "What is your friend not like?"

- 4 Write a short story about your friend/s

10 ways to spot a true friend

1. A true friend keeps his/her promises
2. A true friend tells the truth
3. A true friend is genuine
4. A true friend is giving
5. A true friend makes time for you
6. A true friend is comfortable just hanging out with you
7. A true friend can share
8. A true friend communicates
9. A true friend isn't into appearances
10. A true friend remains close

- 5 What do you think the author means by each of the statements (1.-10.)? Give a definition or an example for as many of the statements as you can.