

SPRING VIEWS

Spring International Language Center, Littleton, Colorado,
February 2020

Students Write about Dreams *and Goals*

Level Five Contemplates

The Role of Dreams in Life

Dreams make life beautiful. Eleanor Roosevelt states that people with dreams and faith in those dreams own the future. Our characters are the result of our dreams. It does not matter what your dream is. What matters is to have one. Dreams are the fuel that helps us to live and move forward even if life is bitter. Nevertheless, a dream without belief is the same as writing on sand; with time, the winds will erase it. —*Alhussain Alshammari, Saudi Arabia*

Everyone in the world has a dream; however, not everyone in the world believes in it. If you have a dream, you have to work for it and do your best in the purpose of getting it. There is a saying about people who have accomplished their dreams: “My dream has come true.” In the end, a dream will be easy to achieve if it is believed. —*Awad Alatawi, Saudi Arabia*

Life can be unpredictable and sometimes scary, especially when someone’s goals are different from their reality. For example, a woman with small children dreams of returning to school and finishing her incomplete career. Even though she feels guilty for leaving her small children under someone else’s care, she does it anyway. After a few years, she will find that she did the right thing by following her heart. Everyone is capable of achieving anything they put into their heads by being true to themselves and never giving up. —*Carmen Tobon Hernandez, Mexico*

If you have dreams, it’s important to chase them. Life is too short to sit still and wait until exciting things happen and time passes by. Action is what we need in life and the courage to change things. Sometimes it is hard to chase your dreams. There can be resistance from family and friends; perseverance is what is needed. If people are strong enough to chase their dreams, they can influence their future. It gives them happiness and control. —*Yolande Schmitz, the Netherlands*

Some people’s dream is huge. For example, they want to become a professional sports player or live in a big house. In contrast, other people’s dream might be not quite so big. For example, they just want to have a family or enjoy life with their friends. All of them dream, however, to make their life beautiful, like an illumination. —*Takeshi Naruse, Japan*

But don’t forget to live:

As British author J.K. Rowling states, it is important not to forget to enjoy every moment of life while achieving dreams. Dreams and goals make a person move forward in life. It makes life more meaningful, interesting, and challenging. But many people set their dreams as their only accomplishment; they spend a lot of time apart from their family and loved ones. Some dreams are hard to gain, and people tend to want something that is not easy to get, like to be a singer, movie star, or millionaire. In my opinion, it is more important to live in a moment now but not to forget about reaching goals or to sit back as if goals don’t make life happier. —*Firuz Abdrazakova, Kyrgyzstan*

Having a dream or goal is fundamental to enhance happiness and excitement in life, but that should not take up time in thinking instead of working, which would make the dream unrealistic or unachievable. Think once and work twice to achieve your goals and ambition. —*Basil Alsharari, Saudi Arabia*

It is a very important and magnificent thing that you have dreams; however, don’t let the dreams control you or make you live in daydreams. People have to balance between real life and their dreams. —*Abdulaziz Allahim, Saudi Arabia*

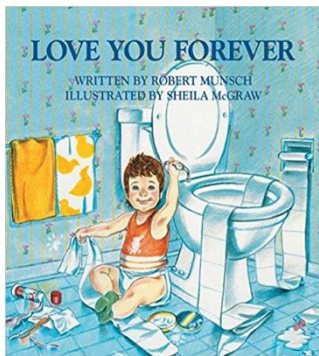
There is no dream that can fill an empty stomach or provide shelter to those who need it. In other words, facing real world issues and daily problems is the only way to ensure a good future. Dreams by themselves are not the problem; however, the wasting of valuable time is the problematic side of the issue. To conclude, it is people’s right to dream, but it should not be at the expense of real life. —*Abdullah Aldwean, Saudi Arabia*



Leticia Gilleiron, Switzerland, skied from the top of the highest mountain in Loveland during Spring’s trip in February.

We all dream of doing our best to reach the top!

Books and Movies that Inspire Us



“Love You Forever” written by Robert Munsch is an emotional story about the relationship between a mother and her son. The story shows the real love that parents must have for their children. Even if parents do not like the behavior of their children, they will always love them. Although the story is short, the author successfully touched my emotions.

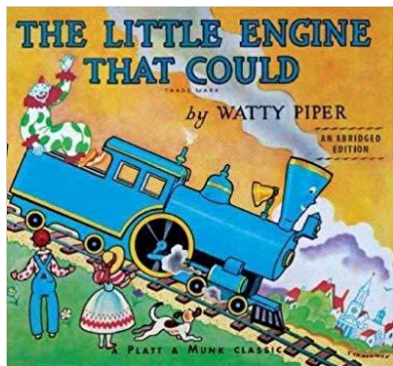
The story begins by explaining the way that mothers usually use to help their newborn child to sleep. The mother holds her little baby boy, rocking him back and forth while she is singing to him: *“I’ll love you forever. I’ll like you for always. As long as I’m living, my baby you’ll be”*. The story shows the unconditional love that the mother holds for her child despite the changes in his age. It also shows the mother’s way of dealing with his naughty behavior throughout his childhood and adolescence until he becomes a grown man. The conflict is clear between mother and her child on the day when she even says that she wants to put him in a zoo. At night this conflict disappears as she crawls to his bedroom to hold him and rocks him while she sings to him. The mother keeps doing this until her son moves to a new place with his wife. At that time the cycle of life continues. The son begins visiting his mother to hold her, rocking her back and forth while he sings to her: *“I’ll love you forever. I’ll like you for always. As long as I’m living, my mommy you’ll be”* until she passed away in his arms. At the end of the story, the son enters the room of his newborn daughter to hold her, and he rocks her back and forth while he

sings to her: *“I’ll love you forever. I’ll like you for always. As long as I’m living, my daughter you’ll be”*.

Overall, the content and themes of “Love You Forever” are emotional and educational. On the one hand, it can be seen that the author shows us what a mother’s love looks like. Even when children are impolite and impulsive, their mothers will always love them no matter what. On the other hand, an educational aspect is clear also. The author perfectly shows the readers throughout the story how a mother can demonstrate her love for her son even though he may have bad manners in his childhood, and adolescence. In addition, we see how this son deals with his mother when she needs him to be around her. By this means, Munsch shows the cycle of life in a captivating way.

Although the story has been written effectively, it does not make sense in some respects. A mother’s love is a lifelong love. It does not appear only when her son goes to bed, and disappears when he awakes like what happens in the story. I also believe that mothers do not hold their children and rock them back and forth when they grow up. However, Munsch shows how quickly a mother becomes an old woman who cannot do her work alone. This scene stabbed a knife in my heart. It reminds me of my mother and how she has suddenly become an old woman. It got me wondering whether I have really been a great son to her.

Clearly, the story “Love You Forever” has educational and emotional themes. Also, the author perfectly explained these notions to the readers. The story should be read by individuals of all ages; especially children because the story can show them what the love of a mother looks like, and how they should treat their mothers. If you have not picked up your copy of “Love You Forever” yet, I suggest you do so soon. **Abdulmalik Alghamdi, Saudi Arabia**



Every daycare should have “The Little Engine That Could” and read it to the children. This masterpiece published by Platt and Munk was written in 1930 by Watty Piper. The book entertains children and teaches them how to be team players. The book lured me in by its wonderful title and the illustrations that are included. In “The Little Engine That Could” there was a train carrying animals, clowns, and toys. Suddenly, the train stopped because the engine broke down. The clowns started to look for another train that could help them make it to the top of the mountain where children were waiting for their toys and goodies. Three trains came by but refused to help. One was arrogant, another proud, and the last one lacked confidence. After that they saw a little blue train, which was kind. Even though the little blue engine was small, she agreed to try to help. It was heavy for the train to pull the other train, but the little engine had self-confidence, and it did it! The story shows us that we shouldn’t look down on other people, we should have trust in ourselves, and we should help each other.

This is a little book, but it has a huge meaning. The writer chose trains as the main characters, and it was a perfect choice for children due to how attractive the design of the train is to children. The message of this book is important nowadays especially for children because helping each other is decreasing. Overall, the content and themes of the book are helpful; especially for children who lack self-esteem or need to be encouraged to take risks.

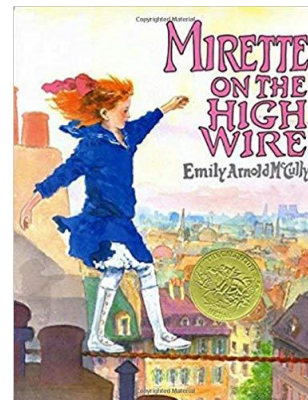
The lesson in the book is great for all ages. No matter what, don’t lose your confidence. The story has different examples of people nowadays, but the writer changed them to trains. It seems ironic that this book was written in 1930 when the message has become more powerful for this century. The Little Engine’s message reminds me of when I said that I couldn’t learn English. However, now I like to speak in English rather than my first language.

To sum up, this book should be read to all children to know that the word “impossible” is only a word. Parents should use it to encourage their children to help other kids too. The lesson in “The Little Engine That Could” is so wonderful that people should listen to the story whenever they face a difficult challenge. **Ali Selham, Saudi Arabia**

The book I want to introduce is “Mirette on the High Wire,” which was written by Emily Arnold McCully. This book was published in 1992 by SCHOLASTIC INC. This book is about two wire-walkers. This topic indicates the purpose of overcoming fear. When I finished reading, my heart was warmed by the emotion of the main characters.

This story takes place in the widow Gateau’s boarding house in Paris 100 years ago. This story’s main themes are persistence and overcoming fear. Persistence is shown by a girl, Mirette, who was fascinated with wire walking and practiced wire walking many times without giving up. Finally, after many failures, she accomplished a walk on the wire from one side of a building to the side of another building. Overcoming fear is the other theme, and it is demonstrated in a man whose name is Bellini. He had been a professional wire walker, but now he is afraid to walk on the wire. However, finally, he overcomes his fear by meeting Mirette.

I think this book is good for children and adults. As a reason, this book teaches them the importance of continuing to work without giving up. Readers are also shown that no matter how fearful you are, you can overcome the difficulties if you have a companion who can help you. These themes are easy to catch because this story clearly deals with the emotions of the characters. (cont. p. 3)



Mirette (cont. from p.2)

In my opinion, the writer is correct that if you have fear of something, you can overcome it with someone's help. Also, it is crucial never to give up. Personally, I hesitate to speak in front of everyone, but if I speak with a friend, I feel calm. Here is another example. If you have a difficult task in various situations, you will be able to accomplish it with your peers without giving up and continually challenging yourself as often as you have failed.

In conclusion, the themes in general are valuable lessons. Teaching others about overcoming fears and persistence is significant for our life. I recommend that other people should read it. Especially, I want to recommend this book to people who hesitate to do something and give up easily. Clearly, if you try difficult things and never give up, you may be able to experience valuable things. Read "Mirette on the High Wire."

Urara Nakamura, Japan



In this life, people have encountered a great deal of challenges. Some folks prefer to struggle, face their troubles, and embrace their suffering. On the other hand, other people who surrender at the first obstacle, do not have the ability to tackle their dilemmas. Rather, they tend to yield. In "The Pursuit of Happiness" Chris Gardner is a great role model because he coped with his challenges and refused to stop trying. "The Pursuit of Happiness" is a great movie for two primary reasons, and although some would disagree, everyone should see this movie.

The first reason to view this movie is that it contains a positive message for people. It is implied that without suffering, they cannot reach the peak of victory. It shows us that objectives cannot be reached without intention, patience and persistence. It is full of proverbs, words of encouragement and wisdom. For example, Chris told his son "Do not ever let somebody tell you .. you cannot do something; not even me!" From that you can learn, you should not let anyone discourage you, even if they are the closest to your heart.

Another reason to watch "The Pursuit of Happiness" is that it is based on a true story. When you hear about someone who has lost their home and everything, but then he makes changes in his life and becomes successful, it is inspiring! According to a New York Times review, Chris still had good virtues like honor, belief, and kindness although he lost his home and became homeless. (Dargis). Audiences can gain hope from this message. This story is good for people who face tricky conditions. They see their life from another perspective, and this gives them hope.

Some people may disagree. They may think this movie is overly positive because not all people have an affluent friend to assist them like Chris does when he needs a chance to have an interview in a great company. However, even if we do not have a wealthy friend, we have to see every possible opportunity. We always have a choice about what we want to be, and we have the ability to make a difference in our life.

In conclusion, this movie should be watched because of its profound impact on others' lives. It shows us how successful people can be born from failure. In fact, a painful experience is the perfect motivation for learning. If you are feeling overwhelmed with life, get a boost by viewing "The Pursuit of Happiness!" Cited: Dargis, M. (2006, December 15). Climbing Out of the Gutter With a 5-Year-Old in Tow. *The New York Times*. Retrieved from <https://www.nytimes.com/2006/12/15/movies/15happ.html>. **by Nisren Aljabri, Saudi Arabia**

Sometimes it is difficult to speak or write about goals and dreams because, I think, time changes everything, and the circumstances change, too. I never thought I could write, but now it's exciting. I am passionate to think that in the near future I will be able to write a book. I would like other people to see with my eyes, through my words, what my family has lived, so they could learn something from our journey. However, I also think about my love for people and laws, and this leads me to suffer in wanting to be a lawyer in this country. I don't know how to realize this dream because everything is different here, but my heart will take me to a safe harbor where I will utilize every tool to make my dream come true.

My other goal is to continue growing as a person, learn, keep observing and absorbing everything in this new culture. I look forward to the day that I don't have to use a translator and can speak and write very good English. But my maximum goal this year, and the one for which I would exchange all my previous dreams and goals, would be to hug my mom. I thank God every day for technology because I can see her, but my heart is eager to touch her and hug her so strongly that all of Colorado would tremble.

My conclusion is that there is no stronger goal or dream than being able to be close to your family, to enjoy their love, affection, and care. Love is the most powerful and consistent feeling that exists to move mountains. **Carolina Salebe, Colombia**

I have two goals. One is to be able to speak and listen to English. Another is to be a good doctor. Now I am bad at speaking and listening to English, so I am studying English and trying to speak and listen in this language. I want to talk with more people when I can speak English. In addition, I am a student in medical school. I must study medicine for six years. I am in the second program. I want to get a lot of knowledge of medical techniques by studying and making the effort to help more people. I think that English will be a useful skill when English speakers come to the hospital in Japan. **Sano Nakamura, Japan**

Everyone has a dream that he or she wants to make. However, dreams cannot come true until you have plans and goals that you work on. My main dream is to work in a hospital as a social worker, and I have goals to make this dream come true. On the one hand, I want to work in a hospital as a social worker to help people with their issues and support them so they have the opportunity to change their life to better. On the other hand, I would like to have prestigious jobs that make me feel proud of myself. Working in a hospital will achieve two things, self-esteem and helping people.

Second of all, I have a goal that helps to put my dream into action. My current goal is to complete study of the English program. After that, I will work on university acceptance and learn more about the social worker field. In addition, I will have the experience of an internship that will give me the opportunity to have a job. Finally, dreams cannot come true without goals.

In sum, people have dreams that they want to achieve. However, dreams cannot be achieved until you have plans and work on them. Being a social worker isn't easy; however, if I work on my goals, I will gain my dream. People should believe in their dreams and work hard until they get them. **Yazeed Althemaury, Saudi Arabia**

While I was watching al Zeir Salem, a famous Arab television series, I liked the scene where one of the characters who had dreamed about visiting India did not accept the offer from someone to join him on his trip. When people asked him, "Why didn't you go on the trip to India. Isn't that your dream?" He said, "If a man achieves his dream, he will die, and I don't want to live as dead. Our dreams make us live."

I have numerous dreams, like traveling to many places that I have read about or seen on TV, such as the joker stairs in New York or doing something risky. Moreover, I dream of getting married to a beautiful woman but, as you know, there are no beautiful women except in our imagination. Getting the PhD in astrophysics is not my goal. It's just a way to make my goal real, so I make some difference in this world and help humanity to reach better places in our solar system In addition, I want to make history. (cont. p. 4)

Everyone has dreams and goals. When you are on the way to achieving these goals and dreams, you must work hard and have fun, a lot of it. **Atiyah Alhasadi, Libya**

I think all people need to have meaning in their lives. We must have goals and a dream. I have many goals and dreams that I want to fulfill, which I am now trying to achieve. For instance, I want to help a lot of poor people, especially poor children, and I want to learn English.

First of all, actually I love all children so much, and I think it is their right to lead beautiful lives. I want to help poor people because I think we should do it. In addition, all people in this world are the same, and they have the right to live in love and peace. My second goal is to learn English. Now I am studying English at Spring International Center. Every day, I wake up early in the morning, and I remember that I have a goal I want to achieve. Sometimes there are many difficulties on the way. However, that's normal; I still keep trying.

In conclusion, I always strive and wish all people's dreams and my dreams will come true. I have a favorite wisdom that I always remember: "I have a dream" by Martin Luther King. **Najla Alshaqha, Saudi Arabia.**

What's Your Opinion?

Teen Smoking

Peer pressure is very influential among teens, and it is one of the most harmful behaviors involving peer pressure. It is clear that smoking affects people's health as well as their wealth. Therefore, parents and teachers should collaborate to minimize the number of teenagers who get involved in smoking. Although some people believe that imposing a higher tax on cigarettes is the most effective solution, there are several other options that would work better. Those solutions involve relationship building, advertisement reduction, and childhood education.

The first possible solution is fostering a strong relationship with children. When parents strive to be closer to their children, children are affected positively. Thus, they obey what their parents say. It is common to see that children who spend more time with their family are devoid of detrimental behavior. Likewise, if children have strong communication with their parents, they will open up to their parents about their problems which they might be facing with their peers. Teen Clearly, parents need to be closer to their children in order to protect them.

Another solution is reducing smoking advertisements. Once TV and social programs have lured a variety of viewers, it might cause a negative impact; especially in children. Thus, children may gain a harmful habit such as smoking. Producers of these advertisements are not concerned about whether content is suitable for children. Therefore, children's behavior is affected. Certainly, parents should monitor what their children see, but marketing of tobacco products should be regulated in order to protect young people.

Education is the final and most effective solution to teen smoking. Schools have a role in raising children. Some schools strive to warn children of the dangers of smoking by going to organizations which are responsible for spreading awareness among children. To illustrate, some primary school teachers organize trips to the hospitals in order for the students to see patients who had gotten sick as a result of smoking. This was done specifically because children might be more affected by watching this than by listening to someone talk about that problem inside classes.

Clearly, smoking is ubiquitous among children, so the government, teachers, and parents should collaborate to reduce the number of young smokers. It is clear that smoking leads to death. According to Harvey of the Pediatric Society, smoking results in the highest percentage of deaths among other causes, and around six million are killed each year as a result of smoking (Harvey). In the end, children are the fabric of our community, and if parents and teachers teach them how to avoid smoking, they will grow up to enjoy full and prosperous lives of their own. **Mazen Almohammdi, Saudi Arabia**



The Hazardous Side of Technology



The field of technology has been developing at lightning speed since 1995. Technology is being used very beneficially for the whole world, but it also has a hazardous side, as everything else in life. Since people are not aware of this hazardous side of technology, we should instruct ourselves and others about it. Without any doubt, movies are reliable and far reaching to do this. The movie "The Great Hack" addresses this message, and even though some disagree, everyone should see this film.

The first reason why everyone should see the movie is to raise the awareness of the risks of the technology. Almost everyone has an account on several websites. In order to create these accounts, the website requires personal information. This information can be used in a very harmful way for the users. The company, Cambridge Analytica, took this information and used it to figure out a way to play on the people's emotions and change their perceptions of candidates who were running for president in elections in the U.S. in 2016. (Kenigsberg)

Learning how to protect yourself when using technology is another benefit of watching this documentary. For instance, for those who have not yet begun using technology, the movie gives a pretty clear step to protect themselves. Also, for users who are using technology for a while, but do not face any problems yet, the movie will educate these people about avoiding trouble using a great information process.

More than that, the film guides people who are being hacked. It explains signs of being hacked and what can they do in order to minimize the damage.

Of course, some people will not agree with me. They may say that technology is not harmful in any way and the movie exaggerates the risk because the technology has nothing to do with violence. That idea shows how shortsighted some people are. Without a doubt, technology doesn't harm directly, but it is related to almost everything today, and it can cause great damage indirectly. For example, the movie shows the story of an election and how the company was using technology to select "persuadable" people and convince them to believe things that were not true.

No matter how you look at it, it is imperative that everyone see "The Great Hack." The stories and the facts that have been shown are very clear and convincing. It is logical to assume that if those stories and facts happened before, the same technology process can be used again, so we might be in danger any time. Therefore, everyone should see "

The Great Hack." **Abdulmohsen Alshiha, Saudi Arabia**

Mathematics: An Enjoyable and Essential Subject



Mathematics is a crucial subject that students should study. Although many students would disagree, mathematics is a subject which is enjoyable and interesting. The fact is that math is made difficult by students, teachers, and family. However, we can solve this perception of difficulty by practicing, training teachers, stop comparing, and correcting stereotypes.

Practicing is the first solution. Less practice leads to failure. Many students think that studying math is like studying a book or history, but mathematics is different. According to Essaygator.com, "many students struggle with mathematics, and they believe that is the most difficult subject" (many 1). When we study math, we must have a pencil and paper. Students who spend a lot of time practicing math skills can feel relaxed when they complete exams because they have solved similar equations. Practice truly makes many times perfect. If students practice, they will change this opinion.

Another solution involves teacher training. Many teachers do not know how to explain mathematical information. Therefore, teachers should be trained to teach using clear and effective methods. If teachers are aware of strong teaching strategies, and they know how to explain the concepts in an accessible way, students will not feel that mathematics is difficult.

Some students compare themselves with their friends who love mathematics and solve problems fast. To solve this problem, students have to recognize that skills vary. Some students must study a lot of time before a mathematics exam, and they get a high score. On the other hand, some students study for a short time, and they also get a high score. Students should be aware of that, and stop comparing themselves with others.

The most significant solution is to quash stereotypes about mathematics. When we grew up, we heard a lot of bad things about how difficult or boring mathematics is. Even if a person had been fond of mathematics in the past, they changed their major because of the stereotypes. We must stop talking about mathematics in this derogatory way, and rather speak about it in a more appreciative way. People can be influenced by this kind of language, so we must speak kindly of math.

To sum up, mathematics is a colossal subject that students should study with joy. If we solve this problem, mathematics will be seen for what it is; an interesting, enjoyable, and exciting subject.

Alhanouf Albalawy, Saudi Arabia



My favorite place in Denver is a beautiful park near my apartment. There is a lake, and it has many trees. I like it because there is a lot of snow, and I can run every day. I feel freedom and calm. I enjoy the park because there is always silence and quiet.

However, also there are people walking with their pets. They always look at me because I run in the snow smiling. When I finish, I relax, and I look at the frozen lake. I enjoy watching it because I like feeling peace in my body, mind, and spirit. The park is good to me and it helps me to be happy. It is my friend because I feel it's cozy, comfortable, and lovely. A park is good for the body and the mind because you can think, organize your ideas, and clean your life.

In my opinion, it is exceptionally good, and finally, I love my lovely park. **Maria Roman, Colombia**

We All Have Dreams: Basic and Level One Share Their Thoughts

I dream of being a famous writer. - Maria Romano

My dream is to become a pilot. - Ibrahim Alemadi

My dream is to live with my family a good life. - Khalid Alafari

My dream is to learn English very well because I like English, and I know it is important for everything, and more for me because I live in the U.S. - Suledma Ortega Gonzales

My dream is to travel the world because I like to meet people from other places and learn new cultures. Also, I dream of learning lots of languages because I love languages, and I hope to study for a master's degree. Also, I dream to get a wonderful job. Finally, my dream is I live my life like what I want. - Sutanah Aljohani

I dream of learning to speak English, and I want to study at university in the future. - Mohammed Ahmed

I dream of four wives. - Anonymous

I dream of beef. - Ahmed Alharby



The Danger of Mixed-Level Ski Runs

Nowadays, one huge problem novice and professional skiers face is mixed level ski-runs. Many accidents happen every day. Because of this, the consequences of mixed ski-runs vary from hospitalized children to paralyzed adults. Some would say it's the professionals' fault because of the speed they maintain. Others blame the "newbies" for getting in the way, but neither is correct. The issue here is the organization of ski centers, so what could be done to solve this dilemma?

The best way to avoid accidents is to be informed. As Mike Doyle states in his text "A Guide to Skiing Ability Levels," before someone starts skiing, they should think about the experience they have, and depending on this, decide where to ski (Doyle). Although it sounds obvious to most people, it is surprising how many people start sports with no previous research.

This brings me to my second solution; the colors of the ski-runs. A massive number of skiers don't pay attention to color signs throughout the course. Signs are there for a reason, and it's important to respect them, for they are the only way to know if you have the necessary ability for the run. The colors range from green, blue, red, black, and double black; this last one being really dangerous and just for professional skiers.

Last but not least, the easiest way to find an appropriate place to ski is to ask the ski-rangers. That's why they are skiing around; to help people. Usually we are shy or scared, and we tend to avoid them, but it's the ski-rangers job to help skiers either to find an appropriate ski-run or to give information. Therefore, if a skier is in an unfamiliar place, they should ask for recommendations.

Clearly then, being honest about your ability level and respecting posted difficulty indicators is very important. If everyone skis wherever they wish, other skiers will get really hurt. So please, if not for yourself, do it for the rest of the skiers on the mountain. Be smart, be safe, and respect the mountain. Nowadays, one huge problem novice and professional skiers face are mixed level ski-runs. Many accidents happen every day. Because of this, the consequences of mixed ski-runs vary from hospitalized children to paralyzed adults. Some would say it's the professionals fault because of the speed they maintain. Others blame the "newbies" for getting in the way, but neither is correct. The issue here is the organization of ski centers, so what could be done to solve this dilemma?

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