

Name _____



Leading With Heart

Directions: Read the passage below carefully. Then answer the comprehension and inference questions that follow. Choose the best answer or write a thoughtful response in complete sentences.

Empathy In Action

When we think about strong leaders, we often imagine people who make big decisions or give confident speeches. But many of the most effective leaders have another, quieter strength: empathy. Empathy means understanding and caring about what others are feeling. Leaders who practice empathy listen carefully, respect different opinions, and make decisions that consider how others might be affected.

A student council president named Ariana showed empathy when her school planned a volunteer event. Some students wanted to clean the local park, while others wanted to organize a food drive. Instead of choosing one and leaving others disappointed, Ariana asked, "What if we do both?" She listened to everyone's ideas and helped create a plan that included both projects. As a result, more students joined in, and the community benefited twice as much.

Empathy in leadership is not about agreeing with everyone; it's about understanding where others are coming from. When people feel heard, they are more likely to work together and trust their leader. Whether it's in school, a community group, or a future workplace, leading with empathy builds connection and inspires cooperation.

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1. What is the main idea of this passage?
 - A. Leaders should make all decisions by themselves.
 - B. Empathy helps leaders understand and connect with others.
 - C. Empathy means always agreeing with everyone.
 - D. Leadership is mostly about giving strong speeches.
2. What action showed Ariana's empathy as a leader?
 - A. Ignoring the ideas of students who disagreed.
 - B. Asking everyone to follow her plan.
 - C. Listening to all sides and creating a fair solution.
 - D. Cancelling the volunteer event.
3. What happened as a result of Ariana's empathetic leadership?
 - A. Fewer students wanted to help.
 - B. The community only benefited from one project.
 - C. The event was postponed.
 - D. More students joined and two projects were completed.
4. Based on the passage, why does empathy make leaders more effective?

5. In your own words, describe a situation where a student could show empathy as a leader at school.
