

Name _____



True Peer Choices

Directions: Read the nonfiction passage below about real teens' experiences with peer pressure. Then answer the reflection questions that follow.

Peer pressure is something almost every teenager faces, and how they handle it can shape their confidence and choices. Maya, a high school junior, remembers when her friends encouraged her to skip study group before a big test. "They said it didn't matter, but I knew it did," she explained. Maya decided to attend the session anyway and later scored higher than she expected. "It felt good to listen to myself," she said.

Another student, Jordan, shared a different experience. "A group of friends pressured me to post a mean comment online," he admitted. "At first I did it because I wanted them to like me." Later, Jordan realized the comment had hurt someone's feelings, and he deleted it. "Now I think more before I post," he said.

Both Maya and Jordan learned important lessons: real strength means staying true to your values, even when others push you to do something different. Peer pressure is powerful, but your response shows who you really are.

1. Have you ever felt pressure to do something you didn't want to do? How did you handle it?

2. What helps you know when a choice is right for you?

3. Why is it important to think before acting when others are watching?
