

Directions:

Read the Handy Dandy Guide and the mystery. For help in solving the mystery, read the clues and decide whether each statement is true or false. Use the clues and idea from the Handy Dandy Guide to figure out a solution to the mystery. Write your solution in the space provided.

Handy Dandy Guide

1. People *choose* to do the things they think are best for them.
2. People's choices have *costs*.
3. People choose to do things for which they are *rewarded*.
4. People create *rules* that affect our choices and how we act.
5. People gain when they freely decide to *trade* with one another.
6. People's choice today have *future results*.

The Mystery

Even before lunchtime, Gracie feels very hungry. When the lunch bell finally rings, Gracie hurries to the school lunchroom, grabs a tray, receives her lunch, and finds a seat.

But before long, Gracie tosses most of her food into a waste container.

Why would hungry kids like Gracie throw away their food?

True or False Clues

Read each statement below and mark it true (T) or false (F). Check with your teacher to find out if your responses are correct.

1. Gracie hates to eat. *FALSE*
2. American students enjoy wasting food. *FALSE*
3. The food in the school cafeteria is often not popular with students. Eating it seems more like a punishment than a reward. *TRUE*
4. School cafeterias usually offer a wide range of choices from which students may choose what they like. *FALSE*
5. Students usually pay for their school lunches with money from their allowances or money they earn by doing work around home. *FALSE*

The Solution

Solve the mystery, using the clues and ideas from the *Handy Dandy Guide*. Record your solution here and explain it briefly:

- Students choose to do things they think are best for them, so when the school cafeteria is providing food that they do not like then they will choose not to eat it no matter how hungry they are. Students will do things for which they are rewarded, but when the student does not like the food or enjoy eating it they feel like they are being punished rather than rewarded. Lastly, peoples choices have costs, but often times students ignore the fact that the food they are getting from the school is paid for. Most schools have a system where the student has an account the parent can add money to for them, so the student does not have to pay every time they get food. If the students were to pay with their own money they might take into consideration the wasted food.

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The Mystery

Sarah’s friends are all going to the One Direction concert this weekend, but Sarah already used her allowance instead of saving it up for a ticket. Her parents refuse to give her anymore money because they believe she should earn the money and learn to save.

Why do people choose to spend money rather than save money?

True or False Clues

1. Preteens are good at saving money.
2. Sarah has to do chores to earn an allowance.
3. Sarah is used to her parents giving her money whenever.
4. American kids do not understand they have to work in order to be rewarded.
5. Sarah hates One Direction.

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True or False Clues

1. Preteens are good at saving money. *FALSE*
2. Sarah has to do chores to earn an allowance. *TRUE*
3. Sarah is used to her parents giving her money whenever. *FALSE*
4. American kids do not understand they have to work in order to be rewarded. *TRUE*
5. Sarah hates One Direction. *FALSE*

The Solution

People choose to do the things they think is best for them, so Sarah choose to spend her allowance on other things. People's choices have costs and their choices today have future results, so Sarah's decision to spend her allowance elsewhere resulted in her not having money for the concert. Sarah did not understand why she needed to do more work for money because she did not realize that the money was a reward, but rather that the work was a punishment.