

Copy this essay, including the title and signature / date lines at the bottom. Sign and date at bottom ON YOUR COPY where it says "student signature," and have your parent sign where it says "parent signature." Return the essay with this paper. **DO NOT WRITE ON THIS PAPER.** This is **DUE TOMORROW** (if Friday, it is due Monday).

The Importance of Responsibility and Behavior

My life is controlled by many rules. When I play a game, I am expected to follow the rules of the game. When I learn to drive a car, I will be expected to follow the rules of the road. The serious rules that guide and control my life are called laws, and I know that if I break a law, I must pay the penalty.

There are also rules that must be followed in every classroom. One of these rules is that I must not disrupt the class. I should only speak or move around after I receive permission from the teacher. The teacher's job is to give me skills and to give me information that will help me develop into a young (man or lady) who makes my parents and myself proud. The teacher cannot teach if anyone is creating a disturbance and not following the rules.

At school the teacher takes the place of my parents and I know that I should always show respect to my parents. When I do not respect my teacher or those in the class, I am inviting others to disrespect me. When I do the things I should, even when the teacher isn't watching, I let everyone know that I know what respect is and that I respect others and myself.

In this country individuals have certain rights, which cannot be taken from them. One of these rights is the right to learn as much as possible. In some countries, not everyone is allowed to get an education and those who do see it as a privilege. Whenever I create a disturbance in this class, I am not respecting the rights of my classmates. It is as if I am saying, "I do not want to learn and I don't want anyone else to have that chance either!"

I know that my parents work hard to earn money. I know that some of that money is used for taxes. I know that some of those taxes are used to support schools for my education. Whenever I create a disturbance in class, *I waste my parents' and others' hard-earned money.*

I know my parents and teacher want the best for me. I know that they want me to grow into a young (man or lady) who can earn my own living and lead a happy life. The biggest challenges in life include learning to get along with other people, learning to respect the rights of others, and learning to accept my responsibilities.

If I learn nothing else in this class, then, I will at least learn to accept responsibility for respecting my classmates' right to learn, just as I want them to accept my rights. I will try to use time wisely so that it is not wasted. I will pay attention in class, show respect and will try to learn and let my classmates learn.

After I have copied this, I will show better respect to my teacher and classmates. I will return my copy of this paper to my teacher as a sign of my good intention. In the future, I will not provoke my classmates or teacher or cause disturbances so that I won't have to copy this again.

student signature / date

parent signature / date