

uniquely ME!

THE REAL DEAL

what would you do?

For each of the situations below, pick the reaction that is closest to the way you think you would respond. When you're done, find out what your answers tell about yourself.

1. Your aunt gives you a new sweater. You like it a lot- it's a little retro. But when you wear it to school, a few girls make nasty comments about you. You would:

- a** take the sweater off (maybe you don't like it as much as you thought) and never wear it again.
- b** take the sweater off. Then, when you see a girl wearing something similar, you make a few nasty comments to her in front of your friends.
- c** take the sweater off. You'll wear it only when you aren't around your friends.
- d** keep the sweater on. You tell the girls to stop bugging you about it, or just laugh it off or ignore their comments.

2. The "in" girls is made up of girls who would rather gossip, shop, or stare at boys than study. You enjoy school and are typically a top student. The in girls are starting to notice you, but are wondering if you are too nerdy for them. You would:

- a** start goofing off in class and cutting class to hang with them. If your grades drop, who cares?
- b** start goofing off in class, cutting classes and questioning the nerdiness of a few of your old friends.
- c** start goofing off in class and cutting classes but keep up with your school at night so your grades don't drop.
- d** keep up your hard working, school loving ways. If the in crowd doesn't like it, they aren't the crowd for you.

3. You are in a store with a group of girls when one of them sticks a bottle of nail polish into her backpack. Another girl dares you and your friend to do the same – and calls you chicken when you hesitate. You have never shoplifted and you don't want to now. You would:

- a** take the nail polish and pray you don't get caught.
- b** take the nail polish and urge your friend to do it too.
- c** make up a lie like "I think someone's coming."
- d** say "no way." You might even tell them that you don't think it's right to steal.

4. Your teacher asks a question about a book your class has been reading. So far, everyone has given the same answer. The problem is, you don't agree. A girl who everyone thinks is a know-it-all just voiced her opinion- and it's the same as yours! Some kids started arguing with her and she told them their ideas were silly. It's your turn to answer the teacher. You would:

- a** give an answer similar to that of most of the class.
- b** give an answer similar to that of most of the class and join the argument against the girl.
- c** tell the teacher you're not sure what you think and pass.
- d** state your real opinion.

5. You have a crush on a boy in your Spanish Class. Today he was home sick and missed a test. Everyone knows that you do really well in class. He calls you and asks for some of the answers since he'll be making up the test tomorrow. You don't want to help him cheat, but you are also excited that he actually called you. You would:

- a** give him the answers you remember
- b** give him the answers you remember, and call another friend to see if she remembers more questions to tell him.
- c** say something like "I can't remember any questions" or "I didn't do very well" to get out of helping him cheat.
- d** tell him you are not comfortable sharing the answers and wish him luck.

WHAT YOUR ANSWERS MEAN

mostly a's:

Don't let others dictate your actions too much. It would be naïve to think you shouldn't care about what other people think. But, on the other hand, caring too much probably doesn't make you feel good either. The more you listen to your inner voice, the happier you will be in the long run—even if it means being accepted by others.

mostly b's:

Stop giving in to peer pressure. And don't pressure your friends. Assert yourself- if your friends are truly your friends, they will like you for who you are. And you can like them for who they are too, without trying to pressure them into doing things they don't want to do.

mostly c's:

You don't completely give in to peer pressure, but you hold back expressing your true feelings. You are leading a double life- one in front of your friends, another when you are away from them. Ask yourself if you would feel better if you answered D to most of these.

mostly d's:

Congratulations! You do a great job of sticking up for yourself, and what you believe in even if it costs you popularity points at the time.