

You are and 18 year old girl from China. Your parents are middle class and you used to have high grades in primary school. You often have problems with your parents now and you have moved out of home. You have gotten more and more addicted to alcohol and drugs. You often skip school and have trouble concentrating.



You are an 18 year old boy from Dundee with good academic skills. You use a wheel chair and can only speak with the help of a computer.



You are a 19 year old Indian boy who has been in Dundee for 2 years with your family. You have a temporary work visa. You have over average grades at school in India but now you feel isolated and mostly daydream in class – if you attend.



You are a 19 year old girl from Poland. You are very dyslexic and your grades are not very high. Your parents are not pleased with you and are going to visit the local college – particularly the vocational areas to see what they can offer. You love animals and really want to become a vet.



You are a 22 year old Romanian lady who is introverted and insecure. You know that others tease you because of your country of birth. Your parents do not speak fluent English but you have learned it and understand everything in class. However, you do not speak unless spoken to.



You are a 17 year old boy from Arbroath who has ADHD (Attention Defecit Hyperactivity Disorder). You had bad experiences at primary and secondary school where you had to struggle to pass your exams and was constantly told off for bad behaviour. You are very imaginative and creative and you are an excellent guitar player.



You are an 18 year old girl from Cupar in Fife. Healthy with good self-esteem. You are friendly, your family are rich, supportive and well educated. You are also very communicative and have a strong creative streak. Your memory for facts is excellent and you also have good concentration skills.



You are a 16 year old boy from Dundee who is overweight, quiet and has low self-esteem. You have very good mathematical and logical skills. You have recently been diagnosed with depression and generally your health hasn’t been too great, therefore you have missed a lot of classes.



You are an 18 year old girl from Kirriemuir. You come from a family who have a very low income so you have to work to support yourself. You don’t get any understanding from your family about your studies. You get good grades but are very quiet in class.



You are a 17 year old boy from Carnoustie who is very good at practical sports but you have no interest in the academic side of courses, so have achieved low grades in the past. You parents are middle class, also with little interest in academic studies. You plan to become a professional footballer and are bored with college.



You are an 18 year old boy from Perth. You are good at organising things and solving problems. You are also very dominant and quite egotistic. You are happy to argue with teachers and lecturers if you feel that they are wrong or unfair. You get bored easily when listening to lecture and when not allowed to be active.



You are a 20 year old woman from Thailand. You moved here with your parents recently and they don’t speak English but you have been learning it quickly. Some other students tease you about your pronunciation and you have begun to stop speaking in class. You understand most of the content in class but have become quiet introverted. You think it is maybe better to find work where you don’t have to speak.



You are a 25 year old woman from Dundee. You are a single mother with 2 young children both of whom go to primary school. You had to quit school when you were 16 year old as you got pregnant. You often have to skip class because of the children and sometimes have trouble finishing the assignments in the evenings.



You are an 18 year old boy, born and raised in Monifieth and your father is African. You experience discrimination in and out of college every day because of your skin colour. You are not sure how to feel about this and sometimes get very angry and occasionally violent. You are very good at academic subjects but you don’t trust people easily.



You are an 18 year old girl from Fife and you have really good academic skills. You use an electronic wheelchair and have a carer who comes to college with you.



You are a 36 year old man from Montrose and you haven’t been to school since you were 16. You have run the family gardening business successfully for the last 7 years but you would now like to gain qualifications in order to grow your business and run in better. You have problems remembering isolated facts for exams and you like to be busy at all times.



You are a 45 year old woman from Poland but have lived in Dundee for 20 years and mostly worked as a cleaner. You have a nursing degree from Poland which is not recognised here in Scotland so you want to study again to get the same qualification. You find this frustrating and hate going to college with younger students.



You are a 16 year old boy from Dundee. You live at home with your parents who both have alcohol problems and you often have to take care of your younger brother and sister. You want to study but are often very tired and you therefore have trouble staying awake in class.

You have failed several subjects this year.



You are a 16 year old boy from Arbroath and you have some autistic symptoms such as severe mood swings and lack of consideration for others. You can easily remember all kinds of facts but you find it difficult to initiate conversation or make friendships with other people.



You are a 19 year old girl from Dundee and come from a middle class family. You used to have good grades in secondary school but they are now falling and you are finding this stressful and showing signs of anxiety. You are very ambitious and worry constantly about your grades. You also feel stupid that you don’t have the highest grades in the class anymore.



You are an 18 year old girl from the Czech Republic. Your parents are middle class. You are loud and gregarious, and laugh all the time in class with your friends. You are mostly interested in fashion, make up and famous people. You are failing in many subjects which makes your parents angry with the college.



You are an 18 year old boy from St Andrews. You are healthy, have good self-esteem, are friendly, your family are rich, supportive and well educated. You have a very good memory for facts and good concentration skills.



You are a 18 year old girl from Bangladesh. You want to get an education but your family are against it and think you should get married. You are slowly giving up due to the family pressure and are attending less and less. You get really good grades even when you don’t attend class.



You are an 18 year old boy from Broughty Ferry. You are shy and insecure and prone to stuttering when nervous. You come in to college with a pain in your stomach most days and hate it when you are asked to speak in front of the class or do presentations. You would like to be left to stay at home and be left alone.

Step Forward Task

1. You have no problems attending class very day
2. When you enter college you can be sure that most of the lecturers share your ethnic, economic and social culture
3. You can buy all the materials and books needed for college/class
4. You have no problems interacting with other students
5. It’s most likely that your input is respected and listened to when you speak
6. You have good support from your friends or family when you are struggling with some tasks or assignments
7. You never experience discrimination because of your looks, ethnic origin, disabilities or lifestyle
8. The teaching material and texts are likely to reflect your former and present every day culture
9. It’s easy for you to understand the teaching when he/she speaks high academic language
10. It’s likely that other students appreciate your rich experience and knowledge
11. You are probably always invited to all of your classmates parties or social events
12. You have no problems listening to and understanding the teaching when he/she explains for 2 hours teaching with powerpoint
13. You have never thought of quitting your studies
14. The teacher is likely to have great expectations for your academic achievement
15. It’s easy for you to sit still and listen to the teachers for one hour and take notes
16. It’s easy for you to read one chapter in the text book at home and answering questions about it
17. Most of the time you feel good when you go to class
18. It’s most likely that you will finish your studies and graduate

