

Relationship Role Plays

ROLE PLAY 1 – THE MISMATCHED ROOMMATES

ROOMMATE 1

Your roommate borrows your things without asking your permission. This aggravates you. You grew up as an only child and are finding it difficult to adjust to sharing your room with someone else. You don't like to argue, so you haven't really said much about it, but have hinted around that you'd prefer that your things be left alone.

ROOMMATE 2

You know your roommate is irritated with you about something, but you're not sure what it is. She/he seems mad at you, but when you try to bring it up, she/he says everything is fine. You and your siblings fought sometimes at home, but were usually able to work things out.

POSSIBLE DISCUSSION TOPICS

- compromise is part of living together
- communication issues
- how we're raised and what we're used to influences how we interact

ROLE PLAY 2 – WHAT PARENTS EXPECT

PARENT

You're concerned about your son/daughter who is a freshman in college. He/she has gotten through the first few weeks of school and seems to be liking college. That makes you happy. But what doesn't make you happy are the grades that he/she has received so far. A "D+" on the first English paper and a "C" on the first math test are not what you expected out of your 3.5 high school grade average child. You are paying good money, along with a scholarship, for your child to go to Mercer and you think he/she is just playing around too much.

STUDENT

College is a lot harder than you had expected it to be. You've made some friends and are enjoying the general atmosphere, but your grades aren't what you expected-not at all. You really worked hard on your first English paper and felt proud of it, but when you got it back it was covered with red marks and you only got a "D+" on it. This has really shaken you and you wonder if you're college material after all. When you think of the math class, you have to admit you didn't work really hard on it, because you'd had it in high school and figured it would be easy. Now you're really worried about your psychology course. You think you're doing well in it but haven't gotten a test back. You're studying more now than you ever did in high school, but it doesn't seem like enough. You're pretty sure your parents expect you to make Dean's List and you'd like to but it doesn't seem likely now.

POSSIBLE DISCUSSION TOPICS

- differing expectations from parent and student
- sharing disappointment in self requires trust
- relationships with parents can change when you go to college

ROLE PLAY 3 – DIVIDED LOYALTIES (both need to be of the same gender)

FRIEND 1

You and X have been friends since orientation. You really enjoy each other's company and have many of the same interests. You have spent a good bit of time together and talked a lot. During the past week, X has gotten a boyfriend/girlfriend and doesn't have much time for you. You're happy that X is dating someone he/she likes, but you're feeling pretty left out.

FRIEND 2

You and X have been friends since orientation. You really enjoy each other's company and have many of the same interests. You have spent a good bit of time together and talked a lot. During the past week you have starting dating someone and are head over heels. You still care about spending time with X, but this romance is just building and you want to focus on your new love.

POSSIBLE DISCUSSION TOPICS

ROLE PLAY 4 – WHO MAKES THE FIRST MOVE?

PERSON 1

You really like X and would love to start dating. You two get along really well, but you're pretty sure X just wants to be friends. You'd really like to ask X out but you're afraid it could ruin the friendship and are pretty sure you'd be rejected.

PERSON 2

You really like X and would love to start dating. You two get along really well, but you're pretty sure X just wants to be friends. You'd really like to ask X out but you're afraid it could ruin the friendship and are pretty sure you'd be rejected.

POSSIBLE DISCUSSION TOPICS

ROLE PLAY 5 – GRADE DISCREPANCY WITH PROFESSOR

STUDENT

You just received your Grade card from your first semester at Mercer and you are in shock. You had an "A" in math and an "A" in Christianity but you actually made a "D" in English. You never had a "D" before in your life and always received "A's" in English in high school. You're afraid that this grade is going to affect your financial aid and you know that your parents are going to be very upset. Besides, you worked hard in this class and figure that the professor just doesn't know what she's talking about.

PROFESSOR

You have just bumped into a student from your English class. You remember that he/she didn't do well in your class and seemed to reject the feedback you gave him/her about his/her papers. You think he/she has potential to be a good writer but need to work on focusing his/her main idea and his/her use of grammar and syntax was sloppy.

POSSIBLE DISCUSSION TOPICS