

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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# Vocabulary:

## "Is It OK to Lie?"

- 1. accumulate (uh-KY00-myuh-layt)** *verb*; *Accumulate* means "to collect, gather, or let pile up over a period of time." A stamp collector accumulates stamps. *Accumulate* can also mean "to gradually increase in number or amount over time." Mail might accumulate on the counter.
- 2. administer (ad-MIN-uh-ster)** *verb*; As it is used in the article, *administer* means "to give" or "to direct the taking of." Nurses administer drugs to their patients. Your teacher might administer an exam to your class.
- 3. charade (shuh-RAYD)** *noun*; A charade is something done just for show—something done to make it seem like something is true when really it is not. If you think Doug's apology is a charade, you might not accept it. It might be hard for your family to keep up the charade that they aren't throwing your sister a surprise party.
- 4. colossal (kuh-LAHS-uhl)** *adjective*; Something that is colossal is extremely large. Blue whales are colossal animals. If you haven't logged in to your email account for a month, you might have a colossal number of messages awaiting you when you log in.
- 5. deceive (dih-SEEV)** *verb*; To deceive people is to mislead them or make them believe something that is not true, usually to gain some personal advantage.
- 6. fib (fib)** *noun or verb*; A fib is a small lie or a lie about something unimportant. *To fib* is to tell a fib.
- 7. hone (hohn)** *noun or verb*; A hone is a special stone used for sharpening blades. As a verb, *hone* means to sharpen something using a hone. A chef might hone her knife before cutting tomatoes.  
*Hone* is also used to describe sharpening a skill, an idea, or a product. In other words, to hone something means to improve it, make it more effective, or perfect it. You might hone your juggling skills by practicing every day.

# Vocabulary Practice

## "Is It OK to Lie?"

**Directions:** Choose the word or phrase that is most similar in meaning to each word in bold.

1. **colossal**

- enormous       miniature

2. **fib**

- nonfiction       fiction

3. **deceive**

- protect       trick

4. **hone**

- improve       worsen

**Directions:** Fill in the circle to show whether you think each statement is true or false. Briefly explain your choice.

5. Skyscrapers are colossal buildings.

- true       false

**Reason:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Friends who deceive you are good friends to have.

- true       false

**Reason:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Underline the boldfaced word in each pair that best completes the sentence.

7. Sara **fibbed/accumulated** and said she'd heard the new Ariana Grande record, though actually she hadn't.
8. Two inches of snow had **accumulated/deceived** on our porch in just an hour.
9. My sister said the man who **fibbed/administered** her driving test was not very friendly.
10. In *The Hunger Games: Catching Fire*, Katniss feels **deceived/colossal** by those who had a secret plan to rescue her from the arena.

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# What's the Tone?

Tone is the author's attitude toward either the subject he or she is writing about or toward the reader. Words that could describe tone include doubtful, humorous, gleeful, serious, and questioning. Authors create tone through word choice, the information they include, and how they organize the text.

In this activity, you will analyze Maggie Pierce's tone in "Is It OK to Lie?"

**1.**

Consider this passage from the introduction on page 26:

Your best friend shows up at school with a new haircut. It is *not* a good haircut. In fact, it looks like he lost a wrestling match with a lawn mower.

**Lighthearted**  
means  
"amusing and  
entertaining."

In this passage, Pierce's tone could be described as lighthearted. Let's look at why.

A. First let's look at a small detail. The author put the word *not* in italics in the sentence "It is *not* a good haircut."  
How does the author's choice to put *not* in italics help create a lighthearted tone?

B. Now let's look at the simile the author uses to describe the friend's haircut. The author writes, "... it looks like he lost a wrestling match with a lawn mower."  
How does this simile help create a lighthearted tone?

**2.** Now consider this passage from page 27:

Perhaps the key is to think about why you're lying. There's a difference between lying to spare yourself—like faking illness to miss a big test—and lying to spare someone else. Of course, even lying out of kindness can be complicated. It would be cruel to tell your sister she's an awful cook. But if she plans to audition for *Chopped Junior*, being honest and telling her she needs to hone her skills first could save her from colossal disappointment.

**A.** Choose the word that best describes the tone of this passage.

- nervous
- disapproving
- thoughtful

**B.** Explain your choice in part A.

**3.** If you think about this article as a whole, what is the author's tone as she writes about lying? Choose the best answer.

- She has a shocked and scolding tone. She sounds like she is horrified that Americans lie as often as they do and strongly disapproves of anyone who lies for any reason.
- She uses a calm, reasonable, and thoughtful tone as she respectfully presents different points of view about lying. Sometimes she uses humor to keep her article lighthearted.
- She sounds indifferent about the question of whether it's ever OK to lie, like she doesn't understand why anyone would make a big deal out of it. She sounds like she doesn't think it's worth worrying about it.

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## “Is It OK to Lie?” Quiz

**Directions:** Read “Is It OK to Lie?” Then answer the questions below.

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- 1. The author writes, “Plus, if we can’t assume that others are telling the truth, how can we trust anything we hear or read?” (p. 26) What literary device is she using?**

  - (A) metaphor
  - (B) hyperbole
  - (C) rhetorical question
  - (D) symbolism
- 2. Why does the author use the literary device you chose in Question 1? Select TWO answers.**

  - (A) to show how lying can be harmful
  - (B) to encourage readers to think about how lying can affect their lives
  - (C) to help readers understand what a lie is
  - (D) to support the argument that lying is OK
- 3. The author most likely includes the statement from psychologist Jane Frank on page 27 to**

  - (A) convince people to be kind.
  - (B) support the argument that lying is OK in certain situations.
  - (C) refute the argument that lies are harmless.
  - (D) show that even psychologists lie sometimes.
- 4. Which claim could be supported by information in the article?**

  - (A) Most people lie because they don’t feel lying is wrong.
  - (B) Americans don’t lie very much.
  - (C) It’s OK to lie if you are trying to protect someone’s feelings.
  - (D) It’s OK to lie if you’re doing it to help yourself.

### Constructed-Response Questions

**Directions:** Write your answer to each question in a well-organized response.

- 5. What idea about lying does the cartoon on page 26 express? In the article, how does author Maggie Pierce express a similar idea? Explain, using text evidence to support your answer.**
- 6. On page 26, author Maggie Pierce writes, “. . . deceiving those we care about can damage our relationships.” How well does she support this statement? How could Pierce have strengthened her argument? Explain your answer.**