

Evaluating Fairness

To **evaluate** is to judge something based on standards or criteria.

You use evaluation when you

- choose which movie you want to see
- decide whether a move is legal according to the rules of a game
- judge whether a punishment is fair
- decide whether you want to be friends with someone

In what other situations would you use evaluation?

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Cluster Question: What's fair—what's not?

Definition: To evaluate is to judge something based on standards or criteria.

Directions: The passage on the following screens describes a situation in which a question of fairness is interpreted in two different ways.

Both sides have a point, even though they don't agree. Using the information in the passage, fill out the chart by first restating the two points of view in your own words. Then write your own evaluation of the events.

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When Evan signed the discipline policy agreement during the first week of school, he did not really read the contract. He knew a signature was expected of all high school freshmen, so why study the contract? But when a friend reported that the vice principal had searched through Evan's locker without permission one day, Evan came to realize the importance of that contract.

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Evan went to the counselor during his study hall to vent his anger. The counselor pointed out the discipline policy he had signed. For the first time, Evan really looked at it. One section read, “The school administration reserves the right to search private or public property on school premises at any time if they have reason to believe that contraband of any kind is present.”

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Evidently, some anonymous student had falsely accused Evan of stashing a bag of marijuana there. Evan was angry that, on the basis of one unidentified report, he had endured the embarrassment of an adult going through his messy locker. The vice principal was probably only doing his job, but Evan wondered if the administrator had overreacted.

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School Administrator's Concerns

Evan's Concerns

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My Evaluation of the School's Actions
