Analyzing is breaking down a topic or subject into parts so that it is easier to understand.

You use analysis when you

- study the good moves of an outstanding athlete

- pick out a new hairstyle or go shopping for new clothes

- learn the rules for a new game or learn how to use new software

What are some other situations in which you might use the skill of analyzing?

1

Cluster Question: What influences a decision?

Directions: In this activity, you will analyze a decision, creating a list of the factors that influenced that decision. Begin by rereading the scenario presented in the essay *"Prisoner's Dilemma": The Decision Game* on pages 9–10 of *Decisions, Decisions*. As the essay instructs, imagine that you are the first spy and that you are forced to make the decision to inform on or remain loyal to your fellow spy.

Directions: When you've finished rereading the scenario, take a few moments to think about the dilemma. Consider it from as many angles as possible. Then make a decision either to inform or remain loyal. Write your decision on a separate piece of paper.

My decision: _____

_____

Directions: Make a list of the factors that influenced your decision.

List #1

Factors that influenced my decision

_____

_____

_____

_____

Directions: Now compare your list of factors to other students' lists. Make a second list of factors that other students mentioned. To that list, add any additional factors that you can think of that might influence decisions. (Example: the desires of others)

List #2

Additional factors that could influence my decision

_____

_____

_____

Your responses may look like this.

List #2
Additional factors that could influence my decision

desires of others
self-interest
welfare of others
risks involved
short-term consequences
long-term consequences
right vs. wrong