

Evaluating is the process of making a judgment based on information, 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
- decide whether you want to be friends with someone

What are some other situations when you might use the skill of evaluation?

Evaluating Risks

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Cluster Question: What would you risk?

Directions: Notice how a reader evaluated the risks taken by the characters in **Situation A**. Then evaluate the other situations on the following screens. Decide what could be lost by taking the risk and what could be gained. In the last column of the chart, give your decision about whether you would take the risk. Give the reasons, or criteria, you used to make your decision.

Evaluating Risks

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Situation A: A mother baboon sees a leopard stalking her baby.

Possible Action	What Could Be Lost/ Gained	Decision and Reasons
fight; flee; call for help	lost: her life gained: her baby's life	fight: a mother protects her young at all costs

Evaluating Risks

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Situation B: A man in freezing water is offered a lifeline. He can either be lifted to safety or help other people who are in the water with him.

Possible Action	What Could Be Lost/ Gained	Decision and Reasons

Evaluating Risks

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Situation B: A man in freezing water is offered a lifeline. He can either be lifted to safety or help other people who are in the water with him.

Possible Action	What Could Be Lost/ Gained	Decision and Reasons
take the lifeline and accept rescue; pass the lifeline on; give up and drown	lost: his life gained: a chance for others to live	

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Situation C: A teenage boy ashamed of his disfigured face has a chance to meet a girl who has never seen him, just talked to him on the phone.

Possible Action	What Could Be Lost/ Gained	Decision and Reasons

Evaluating Risks

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Situation C: A teenage boy ashamed of his disfigured face has a chance to meet a girl who has never seen him, just talked to him on the phone.

Possible Action	What Could Be Lost/ Gained	Decision and Reasons
meet the person; refuse the opportunity; set up a meeting but not follow through	lost: a friendship; self-respect gained: a friendship; freedom to live normal life	