

# Responsibility

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- understand the meaning of responsibility.
- identify different types of responsibilities.
- appreciate the actions of honesty, loyalty and integrity at different responsibility levels.
- enumerate discharging citizenship duty.

## 6.1 The Meaning of Responsibility



Picture 6.1. Students while watering seedlings

- What does the above picture show?
- What is the importance of seedling?

### Green Compound

W/ro Birtukan and Ato Kitale have four children. Ato Kitale is weaver while W/ro Birtukan is a teacher in a primary school. Their children, Ersado, Butasha, Wude and Lelamo are attending their learning at a high school. The family works jobs collectively. The children do the home chores on a weekly shift basis. They do not believe in dividing the job between boys and girls. Since they are well planned and manage their time properly, they have sufficient time to read. They participate in the work according to their interest: Ersado takes care of compound plants; Wude on beehive; Lelamo on

hens and Butasha is engaged in his father's work of weaving. Since the compound is green and the source of different products, the surrounding people call it "Green compound". Surrounding peoples buy certain products from them.

By selling such products, they help to increase their family income in different aspects. Educational and other costs are commonly covered from such sources. Furthermore, they are members of an association for the support of the aged people. This association is established by the Community 'Idir'. They pay membership fee. By participating in school clubs, they share their experiences with their friends. Because of their effective work and achievements the community calls them exemplary children of the community.

### Activity 1

Based on the above passage, answer the following questions:

1. How have those children carried out their responsibilities?
2. Classifying jobs as males and females —is it appropriate or not?
3. Do you have responsibility at home and/or at school? If yes, mention them.

Carrying out a given work by self-initiation or by order from others is known as discharging responsibility. To be effective in all engagements where a person is assigned, he/she has to be responsible. For example, parents, physicians, teachers, military men, peasants, students—have to take care

## Responsibility

of children, patients, students, country, farming, learning respectively. These are some of the examples in fulfilling responsibilities.

The responsibility level can be high or low. Nevertheless, to be effective in any place, a person has to discharge a responsibility. Effective result of each person has contribution to him/her self, community and country at large. As a student, since learning is your present role; you have to work hard.

On basis of this, you have to contribute something to your family on basis of your capacity. You can imagine that your parents' dedication of their investment on you is to make you a good citizen. Your responsibility starts at home and at school too. You have to be aware of common properties at school. The other responsibility at school is fighting against the harassment of girls and the abuse of child rights.

### Activity 2

1. What does fulfilling responsibility mean?
2. Can the self-initiating work be identified as responsibility? How?
3. Why do students take care of school properties?
4. From where should we start fighting against harassment and child abuse?

## 6.2 The Meaning and Necessity of Promise

“የተናገረውን በውጤት አብሳሪ

እውነተኛ ሰው ነው ቃልኪዳን አክባሪ።”

- Based on the above statement, what does a promise mean?
- How does promise is explained?
- What are the main qualities of a person fulfilling a promise?

### Dark and summer

There was heavy rain on last June 30. Peoples of Tabour kebele failed to get back to their home. Ato Dansa, the carpenter, was one of people faced challenge of running water and darkness. The rain has become heavier and heavier. As a result, he failed to identify the road from farmland. So, he immediately moved to a certain home around the road. The aged person who saw the sufferings of Dansa has invited him to his home to get shelter. But, Dansa told them that his wife is pregnant that he has to take care of her and hence he requested to borrow the flash light and umbrella. The aged person told him to bring them in early morning and Dansa also promised to do so.

As Dansa expected, his wife, Birke, was waiting for him standing at the door. By welcoming him, they entered their home, ate dinner, had tea, coffee and went into bed. However, early in the morning his wife was ready to deliver a child. At this moment, in order not to break his promise, Dansa left his wife to be cared by his neighbours and went to return the properties to the old man. But Birke and neighbours were not happy and criticized his action. When he returned back immediately, he found his wife giving birth to a daughter.

### Activity 3

Answer the following questions based on the previous story:

1. Which actions in the story show honesty?
2. What was the end of the promise between the old man and Dansa?
3. Dansa left his wife at her critical delivery time and went to return the properties in order to keep his promise. Was he correct or not? How do you judge it?
4. How was integrity practiced in the story?
5. If we say the old man is a good person, how about Dansa?

# Responsibility

## Promise

Promise is a vow that someone is doing to another person. A person who puts his Promise into practice is said to be loyal while who has failed to do is supposed to be a liar.

Promise encourages individuals for better achievement. Each person has to promise for him/her self, his/her family, community and country at large. When a promise is translated in to work, it indicates the quality of citizens to fulfill their responsibility. A promise is necessary for the economy change of community, for promoting civilization and country's development. Because promise has a mental force that encourages people to the implementation of their actions.

If you carry out your shared work at home and attend your education seriously, you are said to be a person keeping his/her promise. Keeping promise starts at discharging responsibility at home, which also encourages for participation in schools. For example, being a student is a promise by itself. This is because for better achievement and performance, the only way is to commit oneself to learning. Being a class monitor, club leader and the like, are commitments that lead to effective fulfilling of promises.

## Activity 4

Answer the following questions:

1. What does promise mean?
2. What do we call a person who does not keep his/her promise?
3. What is the importance of promise?

## 6.3 The Meaning of Honesty, Loyalty and Integrity

● Discuss on the following issues:

1. Honesty
2. Loyalty
3. Integrity

In Boditti there is a place called 'Menorya sefer', in which many people live. Amongst them, there live five friends who are shoe polishers of the village.

They have aims: Learning and possessing a shop are the main ones. For this purpose, they have started saving. From their daily income they started what is called 'Iquib.' Each day, they draw into Iquib fifty cents. Oycha is chairperson, Eshetu is secretary and Kanu is treasurer in the association.

Eshetu has the role to write names on paper for the purpose of lotting. However, by disregarding his responsibility, he has started cheating. He was doing this by writing the same name repeatedly so that the probability of getting the lot become high.

One of the members who can write and read by his effort, Buchi, has uncovered the unfair practices of Eshetu. This exposition made Eshetu angry and he wanted to beat Buchi. But all other members criticized Eshetu due to the breaking of loyalty. Eshetu has regretted by his action and asked an excuse. They also advised him to be honest at any time and accepted his excuse. The secretary role, however, was given to Buchi.

## Activity 5

Answer the following questions based on the above passage:

1. According to the story, what is the result of being disloyal?
2. What does the action of Buchi show us?
3. The group gave the role of writing to Buchi. Was it appropriate or not? Discuss.

Honesty means doing something on basis of civility and politeness in words or in actions rather than using force. Loyalty is fulfilling a responsibility effectively while integrity is implementing a promise.

Honesty, loyalty and integrity are basis for real practices. The three concepts are interrelated. If any one in any place discharges his/her responsibility with full energy, knowledge, time and condition and achieves success, a person is said to be honest, loyal with integrity. Disloyalty, selfishness are bad behaviours that can damage work, and even a

## Responsibility

country at large. Therefore, in order to be a competent citizen, you have to be honest, loyal with integrity. Let you have your mental readiness as these are best qualities of a good citizenship.

### Activity 6

Give appropriate answer for the following questions:

1. What is self-centeredness?
2. What are the good qualities of competent citizen?
3. Mention the qualities of being honesty, loyalty and integrity in schools.

## 6.4 The Necessity of Responsibility



Picture 6.2. People cleaning their environment

- What would happen if the environment is not cleaned?
- What do you call the role of participation to resolve community problems?

### Mother Aster

There are competitions among different clubs in Butajira primary school every year. The last year winner was charity club, which was led under chairperson of Aster Anito. She is a grade seven student. She informs us how to do things at home without order and pressure. Every morning she cleans home of chicken and drop the cleaned matter in garden to be used as fertilizer. She also takes care of her dog. Then after having her breakfast, she goes to school punctually. Her mother and neighbours appreciate her self-initiated activities.

She works and coordinates members in a school club. By winning the question-answer competition, she got 500 birr as reward. However, she gave half of this reward to charity club of the school, which makes support for students who drop out of the school because of economic problem. The club members raise money and support the needy ones by working at their free time. This helped them to develop the culture of industriousness.

Furthermore, Aster is taking part in youth development club at her community. From their work income from the place given by kebele administration, they give support to HIV/AIDS victims. She actively participates in a monthly program work such as cleaning drainage routes, avoiding garbage, and teaching anti-AIDS lessons. Since she is helping the sick and aged people, she is blessed by others. Therefore, though Aster's age is young but her performances are well matured that all started to call her "mother".

### Activity 7

Based on the passage answer the following questions:

1. What does responsibility mean?
2. Mention the contributions of Aster at home, school and community level.
3. Do you perform your responsibility like Aster? How?

As mentioned above, responsibility is doing something effectively. This can be by a means of self-initiation or orders from others. Each person has the responsibility at individual and collective level. Since you are students, the duty to carry out your teaching-learning effective is an individual's responsibility. Education is the base for change and development. In addition to involving in family, community work is collective responsibility. Participating in community development is responsibility of every citizen which is an example of self-initiated responsibility.

Fulfilling responsibility effectively is important that can bring change in outlook, civilization and development. In general it helps to end poverty and

## Responsibility

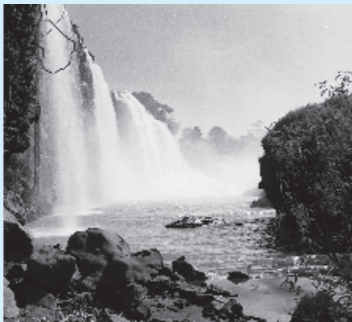
backwardness. It is inevitable to have changes and development if each person is effectively carrying out activities on the basis of honesty, loyalty and integrity.

### Activity 8

Answer the following questions:

1. What is the base of civilization and development?
2. How do you fulfill your responsibility?
3. Mention responsibilities based on self-initiation.

## 6.5 The Meaning of Natural Resource and Historical Heritages



Picture 6.3. Abbay falls



Picture 6.4. Tiya stelae

- By what does Abbay falls is known?
- Where do Tiya stelae are found? Explain what you know about it?
- From both pictures, identify which one belongs to natural resource and which one belongs to historical heritage.

## The Reward of Mulunesh

**W/ro Berke** - My grand daughter, I am ready to reward you whatever you want.

What do you want to be rewarded?

**Mulunesh** - Why do you reward me, grandma?

**W/ro Berke** - I am glad of your performance that you scored first rank in your class and effectively completed your learning.

**Mulunesh** - Thank you grandma! I like if it would be tour.

**W/ro Berke** - Good! Where do you want to go?

**Mulunesh** - As we have learned in class, I know that in our country there are a number of natural resources and historical heritages. I want to visit one of them.

**W/ro Berke** - Interesting idea! By the way, what does natural resource mean?

**Mulunesh** - They are resources existing on earth and water bodies naturally.

**W/ro Berke** - You understood it well! Then what does historical heritage mean?

**Mulunesh** - Historical heritages are human products of long historical periods, which are passing from generation to generation such as palaces, monuments, pictures etc.

**W/ro Berke** - Good! You have basic information. Now, among natural resources and historical heritages, you must visit two of them.

**Mulunesh** - That is wonderful grandma! I will write and report my diary to the class.

**W/ro Berke** - In this year you will visit, Tiya stelae of Soddo Guraghe and Hawassa lake of Sidama. Lakes and things inside the lake are parts of natural resources.

**Mulunesh** - Thank you grandma! I am ready to go and write a diary!

## Responsibility

### Activity 9

Based on the conversation between W/ro Berke, the grandma, and Mulunesh, the grand child, answer the following questions:

1. Why was the grandma of Mulunesh happy?
2. What does natural resource mean? And how about historical heritage?
3. If there are natural resource and also historical heritage you know, can you explain what you know about them and where they are existing?

*To understand natural resource and historical heritage, let us read the following points.*

**Natural resources:** They naturally exist without the improvement by human beings knowledge and experience. They are different things over and under the land, oceans and lakes. For example, we can mention resources over the land such as forests, plants, wild animals, birds, rivers, falls, cattle and etc. Under the land, we can mention liquid and solid minerals such as gold, bronze, metal, gases, etc. Among known natural resources in our country are:

- Awash, Tekeze, Genale, Baro rivers etc.
- Chamo, Awassa, Abbaya lakes etc.
- Wild animals and birds of Awash, Bale, Nech Sar, Semen mountains etc.

Taking care of natural resources has great importance for human existence. It has great significance for human common progress. Every citizen has the responsibility to know and protect natural resources. This is one aspect of discharging responsibility. For example, protecting of forests starts from individual's environment. Taking care of your environment through afforestations, seedling, greening the environment, protecting land and soil from erosion etc., are parts of responsibilities. In this way, if everyone is taking care of his/her environment, the level and amount of forests will recover. If rivers and lakes are used properly, they support development effort. Protecting forests has further significance. It guarantees to the existence of wild animals, birds, plants and protects possible erosion of farm lands.

**Historical heritages:** They are the result of human beings long time wisdoms. They are source of information by transcending from generation to generation. It gives information on the level of the civilization of the population. Religious instruments, monuments, churches, palaces, mosques, pictures and etc., are some of historical heritages. If they are not protected they will be disappeared. The destruction of heritages is the destruction of history. Since historical heritages are common properties, all citizens have duty to take care of them.

Heritages are expressions of identity, they should not be destructed, stolen, etc., and hence individuals have to take care of them.

### Activity 10

Answer the following questions:

1. What kinds of problems are expected if natural resources are not protected? Explain by evidence.
2. How are wisdom, skills, and level of civilization known?
3. Among mentioned places in the passage, find the historical heritages you know and explain to the class.
4. What kind of roles and responsibilities can you play in the protection of natural resources and heritages?

## 6.6 HIV/AIDS



Picture 6.5. A boy has lost his family by HIV/AIDS

- Discuss on what problem will be faced on the boy?

## Responsibility

- What kind of support is needed for a boy who has lost his parents by HIV/AIDS?

**HIV/AIDS** is a transmittable disease that has no medicine in the world yet. By weakening body and protective power of the body, it eventually leads to death. Currently, this disease prevails all over the world. Because of its fast expanding nature both in urban and rural places, our country is one of the most affected areas in the world.

When this disease kills parents, children cannot continue their education and hence become street children. This is an obstacle to future life of the youth. It is affecting the level of productivity by killing educated peoples. Hence to stop such dangerous disease, individuals have to know its ways of transmission.

### Ways of transmission of HIV/AIDS are:

1. Using a syringe used by an affected person.
2. Blood transfusion from affected to non-affected person.
3. Using sharp materials used by affected person (blade, sharp materials to cut off finger nails etc).
4. Using tooth brush used by an affected person.

## Activity 11

### Discuss on the following questions:

1. What are mechanisms to protect HIV/AIDS?
2. How does the death of parents by HIV/AIDS affect their children?

## Summary

Every citizen has certain contribution to his/her country. The main resource of a country is human being. The future generation of our nation has the capacity and responsibility to take care of his/her country. Such persons are effective in the areas they are assigned. Due to loyalty and doing things by his/her own capacity, he/she said to be a person keeping promise.

One best way of taking responsibility is by keeping resources and heritages properly. Proper usage of country's resource is the base for civilization and development. On the other hand, improper handling of such resources leads to serious damages. One of the example is, frequent erosion of our fertile lands. Heritages also have to get due care. They are historical evidences passed from the past generation

to present generation. In turn passing them to the next generation is our duty.

As it is mentioned above, citizens are the main resources of a country. They have to empower themselves by education and knowledge, to be productive groups. In order to educate oneself or to be productive citizen, the first thing is to be healthy. To control the fast expanding HIV/AIDS, individuals should take care and be serious and decisive in fighting against the disease... Since ways of transmission are identified, without committing such mistakes, it is important to keep him/her self alive. This is one of the major responsibility areas. Though it is a killing enemy that is alarmingly expanding due to absence of awareness and even carelessness, still we can defeat it.

# Responsibility

## Key Words

<b>Responsibility:</b>	Accomplishing activities effectively
<b>Promise:</b>	A vow of words
<b>Honesty:</b>	Desirable character
<b>Loyalty:</b>	Respecting promises
<b>Integrity:</b>	Reality/being genuine
<b>Natural resources:</b>	Things that are not created by human knowledge and skill (water, land and air)
<b>Historical heritage:</b>	Passed from past generation and a means to explain the past history and civilization
<b>HIV/AIDS:</b>	A transmittable and killing disease with no curative medicine
<b>Sharp materials:</b>	Materials that can cut into skin such as blade, knife etc
<b>Dawn:</b>	The beginning of the day
<b>Liar:</b>	A person who tells untruth

## Unit Review Exercises

Do these review exercises in your exercise book.

### I. Write "True" if the statement is correct and write "False" if the statement is incorrect

1. Promise is confirming to do something.
2. Keeping natural resource is the responsibility of aged ones but not of the youth.
3. Keeping historical heritage is fulfilling responsibility.
4. As family member everyone has to contribute something on the basis of his/her capacity.
5. Combating HIV/AIDS has no link with discharging responsibility.

### II. Match words or phrases under column 'A' with correct items of column 'B'

- | A                             | B                               |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Exemplary                  | (A) A vow of words              |
| 2. Heritage                   | (B) Not done by human knowledge |
| 3. Discharging responsibility | (C) Transmittable disease       |
| 4. Natural resources          | (D) Being a model               |
| 5. Loyalty                    | (E) Historical evidence         |
| 6. AIDS                       | (F) Effectiveness in work       |
| 7. Promise                    | (G) Not being liar              |
|                               | (H) Carelessness                |



## Responsibility

### III. Copy the following questions on your exercise book and fill the correct answer on the space provided

1. Long existing resources which explain time, history, culture are said to be \_\_\_\_\_.
2. A disease with yet no curative medicament is said to be \_\_\_\_\_.
3. A resource that is not done by technology and science is known as \_\_\_\_\_.

### IV. Choose the correct answer for the following questions

1. Which one of the following shows discharging of responsibility
  - (a) Attending study properly and achieving good result
  - (b) Not taking part in work at home in order to get enough time for study
  - (c) Considering environmental development and neatness as the duty of kebele administrators only
  - (d) Not cleaning the classroom in fear of dust.
2. Keeping historical heritage is the responsibility of
  - (a) History researchers
  - (b) Public officials
  - (c) All citizens
  - (d) Government offices.
3. Nyala, Walia Ibex and Red-Fox are
  - (a) Heritage of Ethiopia
  - (b) Natural resources
  - (c) Found in every part of the world
  - (d) Heritage and attraction for tourists.
4. An important thing for a country's civilization and development is
  - (a) Educating citizens
  - (b) Using modern technological instruments
  - (c) Effective achievements based on knowledge and skill
  - (d) All of the above.
5. Protecting oneself from HIV/AIDS is
  - (a) Discharging responsibility
  - (b) Not valuing life and discharging responsibility
  - (c) Giving priority to learning and reading
  - (d) Not keeping a promise.

### V. Give short answers for the following questions

1. How does HIV/AIDS transmit from one person to another?
2. What does promise and loyalty mean? Give examples.
3. How do you protect natural resources in your community?