

UNIT 6

Responsibility

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

- understand that fulfilling responsibilities honestly and efficiently is a citizen's obligation.
- recognize that protecting natural resources and historical heritage is the responsibility of every citizen.

6.1 Promise



Picture 6.1. Graduate students promising

- What are the young personnel doing in the above photograph?
- What do we mean by “a professional promise”?

A modern patriot

Ato Dubiso was Abera's father and was very well known for his patriotic deeds in his lifetime. Ato Dubiso often advised his son to become a patriotic man after completing his university education. Abera also appreciated his father's wish. Particularly he strongly agreed with his father's idea about the concept “a country is mother and one who does not serve his mother is not a person”. His father was a patriot who fought during the Italian aggression of Ethiopia. For that matter Abera had prepared himself to be a patriot because he admired his

father. Fortunately, he graduated with distinction and found employment as a top official in a road construction agency.

On one occasion, a newly constructed road was found poor in its quality and was damaged. Abera was unhappy because he found the road was poorly constructed. Then he made a decision that the road should be constructed again fulfilling its standard. But the manager of that agency did not accept Abera's decision and planned to bribe him. He decided to give a beautiful car to Abera in order to convince him to change the decision. Then, he sent the model of a car and its key by mail as a gift. In turn, Abera opened the post and observed the contents. He stared at the manager and replied to him by asking a question “Are you an Ethiopian?” and then he threw the key in his face and left that place. The manager became angry and planned to retaliate. He hired a man who knocked Abera down. However, the man who was suspected of the attack was caught and brought to court and sentenced to ten years imprisonment. At that time Abera was in a hospital. When he heard the news he was delighted. Afterwards Abera became famous in the community for his brave deed against corruption and became a great patriot like his father.

Activity 1

Answer the following questions based on the above story:

1. What is the impact of corruption committed by the manager on the development of our country?
2. What is patriotism? What is the manifestation of patriotism?
3. Why was Abera called a great patriot?

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Promise

A promise is an assurance that one will or will not undertake a certain action. If we promise to someone to do something, it is a moral obligation to keep that promise. Before promising, we have to look our potential and capability to make that promise. A sudden promise may lead to dishonesty because it may not be fulfilled properly. In addition to this, it may force us to use unacceptable reasons and in turn this may again force us to offer an excuse.

Therefore, whenever you make promises, you have to make sure it is in your area of ability, potential and capacity. You have to know that failing to keep a promise or breaking a promise is a bad habit. So do not promise what you cannot do according to your ability.

6.2 Integrity, Loyalty and Honesty

- What is integrity?
- How do you express loyalty and honesty?

A labourer found a bag full of documents and a lot of money at his work place. He felt afraid when he opened the bag because it was full of money. When he looked carefully into the bag he noticed that the bag belonged to his employer. The employee thought that the owner at that time would be very worried due to the loss of his property and the craftsman sympathized with him. Then he decided to return the property to the owner. He also told his friend that he had found a lot of money in the bag. His friend on the other hand told him what benefits he had got. The craftsman agreed with the advice of his friend, but according to his own decision he gave the bag to its owner. The owner appreciated the man for his honest manner and loyalty. He took the bag and his money. The next day the owner assigned this honest man as chief manager of his organization.

Activity 2

Answer the following questions:

1. What benefits did the craftsman gain for being honest? Explain briefly.
2. What lessons do you learn from the craftsman?
3. Do you agree with the saying "Honesty is the best policy"? Why? Why not?

Integrity, loyalty and honesty are manifested through hard work. One has to understand that work also has a social character. In order to achieve the expected goal, it requires the effort of many people at different levels. Thus, if everyone does his/her work honestly, the result will be of great benefit. For instance, if a driver keeps a car properly and drives it with average speed he is said to be a responsible driver. Farmers also have a share of responsibility to do their farm activities appropriately and bring the yield to public consumption. Therefore, every professional, or non-professional is responsible to do their work in an integrated, loyal and honest manner and this indicates the right way of fulfilling responsibilities. It should be kept in the mind of all citizens that fulfilling responsibilities with a genuine, loyal and honest manner is essential to achieve the desired goal. Therefore, you have to do things in a genuine, loyal and honest manner. In every aspect of your school participation you have to be sure that you will achieve your goal.

Activity 3

Answer the following questions according to the above story:

1. Why is it said that work has a social character?
2. Why do we need to fulfill our responsibility in a genuine, loyal and honest manner?

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6.3 Natural and Historical Heritage



Picture 6.2. The wall of Harar

- In which region do we find the walls of Harar?
- Why do you think that the Wall of Harar is famous?



Picture 6.3. The Terraces of Konso



Picture 6.4. The Bale Mountains and their wild animals

- What do you understand from the above three pictures?

The Bale Mountains National Park is one of the parks that comprises the high altitude natural resources of Africa. Its area is estimated to be 2200 sq. km. The highest peak of these mountains is Tullu Dimtu which is the second highest mountain in Ethiopia. In the mountains of Bale National Park there are:

- Over 20 mammals
- Over 140 species of birds
- Different types of indigenous and native plants
- Over 24 exotic birds
- The mountain Nyala
- The Semien Red fox

In addition to these, the singing rivers of Wabe Shebelle and Ghenale cross the valleys of Bale flowing slowly southeastwards.

(Source: Girar, institute of Wendo Genet Magazine, 1978.)

Activity 4

Answer the following questions:

1. What is a park?
2. If Tullu Dimtu is the second highest mountain in Ethiopia, which mountain is the highest?
3. Where do we find Mountain Nyala?
4. Do you think that the conditions in the Bale National Park now are better than it was before?

Everyone has a duty of conserving the heritage of his/her country as if it were his/her own property. This can only be practical if everyone bears in his/her mind a sense of responsibility. On the other hand, everyone has to develop a sense of responsibility to protect natural resources from degradation and develop a habit of protecting the cultural or historical heritage. Therefore, every citizen has a responsibility of proper handling and utilizing public property. Thus, students should begin this kind of responsibility at home.

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The property in your home has consumed much time, energy and knowledge. So it needs great care in handling to increase their service life. It is your duty and responsibility to handle and transfer school materials to the next generation. You have also to safeguard and protect the natural and cultural heritage that is found around your community.

The importance of keeping and conserving the natural and historical heritage is to create a conducive and suitable environment.

If we protect and conserve resources such as water, soil, forests, minerals, and wild life we can increase the development of our country. As a result unemployment, poverty and hunger will be eradicated.

We can also increase the number of tourists who comes to our country if the number of endemic wild animals and forests are kept in a proper way. This increases the income of our country. In addition to this, protecting and conserving the historical heritage enriches the history of our country. Moreover, protecting and conserving the historical heritage brings a high benefit in tourist attractions as well a rich history for the coming generations. This is also an opportunity to create new jobs for unemployed citizens.

Thus, you are responsible to safeguard the natural resources of your country and protect the cultural heritage that our predecessors have bequeathed to us. If and only if we act in such manner, we can say that we are responsible citizens.

Activity 5

Answer the following questions:

1. What is the importance of protecting the natural and cultural heritage?
2. What are the contributions of protecting the natural and historical heritage towards eradicating or reducing unemployment, hunger and poverty in a country?
3. What is tourism? Explain the importance of tourism.

6.4 HIV/AIDS

- What are the ways of transmitting of HIV/AIDS?
- What measures should be taken in order to minimize the spread of HIV/AIDS?

The community of New Hope

Teacher Abebaye is a mathematics teacher in grade six. There are thirty students in grade 6D where teacher Abebaye is homeroom teacher. She knows well the names and the behaviour of her students. She also likes them very much. She always reminds them that learning is their major task and they have to study hard. On the other hand, the students respect her very much and listen to her advice and orders carefully. There is no student that comes to class without doing his/her homework. But one day Buzunesh came to class without doing her homework and she was unable to answer the questions asked by the teacher.

During tea break, teacher Abebaye called Buzunesh to her office and asked her why did not she do her homework. Buzunesh answered that her father had died of HIV/AIDS and her mother was an HIV/AIDS patient. For this reason, Buzunesh and her two young sisters spend their free time engaged in different types of work to earn their daily bread. The teacher planned something to help Buzunesh and her sisters to continue schooling as well as to help the mother of these children. Accordingly, teacher Abebaye went to the “New Hope” organization and asked about its service. The organization told her that its function and duty depends upon the import charity that is given by volunteers.

Teacher Abebaye decided to be a permanent member of “New Hope” and she had to contribute some money. Furthermore, grade 6D students decided to join “New Hope” and contribute 25 cents per each month. Thus, Buzunesh and her two sisters were accepted by “New Hope” and they were able to continue their education. Furthermore, Buzunesh’s mother has had medical treatment and Buzunesh continued her education and scored good grades as before.

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Activity 6

Answer the following questions:

1. What problems occurred after the death of Buzunesh's father and because of her sick mother?
2. What do you learn from teacher Abebaye's story?

The alarming spread of HIV/AIDS is now killing a huge number of people in our world. Nowadays, it is one of the most serious enemies of mankind. Up to now, there is no cure or activate for HIV/AIDS. The spread of HIV/AIDS has emerged since 1981 in European Calendar and still it is spreading throughout the world at an alarming rate. Therefore, let us fight our enemy together.

Some common ways for the transmission of HIV/AIDS are:

- When blood infected with HIV/AIDS enters the body of a healthy person.
- Sharing sharp materials such as scissors, blades, etc.
- Sharing toothbrush.
- Having unprotected sexual intercourse, etc.

HIV/AIDS cannot be transmitted by:

- Shaking hands.
- Eating together
- Using a latrine in common
- Learning in the same class, etc.

HIV/AIDS victims cannot resist other diseases because his/her natural resistance to diseases

is weakened by HIV/AIDS. Therefore, the HIV/AIDS victim is vulnerable to be attacked by other diseases. If he/she does not get any support and protection from others he/she will be in a dangerous situation.

Since he/she is not able to work, his/her family will be exposed financial problems.

The impact of HIV/AIDS is not only limited to HIV/AIDS victims or his/her family but it also affects a nation or society at large. HIV/AIDS is killing a large number of the world's population and has multifaceted impacts. For instance, when parents die children will be forced to discontinue their education and live on the street. The young who are the future of the nation will become dependent on others and became unproductive. This negative impact will bring chaos to social development, poverty, backwardness, and dependency.

Therefore, you are expected to develop a great awareness about the severity of HIV/AIDS and protect yourself as well as others. You are responsible to help and protect HIV/AIDS patients as responsible citizen in our society.

Activity 7

Answer the following questions:

1. Mention the ways of transmission of HIV/AIDS.
2. What problems do you observe in a family with an HIV/AIDS victim?
3. Talk about children who live with HIV/AIDS victims.

Summary

The family is the basis for the creation of responsible citizens. Young people from good families will be well behaved and able to take responsibilities as well as fulfill their responsibilities. Responsibility can be revealed within the life of the family. This is found through accepting the orders and advice of parents and fulfilling responsibilities with respect to promises made. The other start for fulfilling

responsibility is to do all school activities in a genuine, loyal and honest manner.

Another correct action is to protect the natural and historical/cultural heritage with a sense of responsibility. Above all, protecting oneself from HIV/AIDS, participating in activities to protect oneself and minimizing its spread is the greatest discharge of one's responsibilities.

Responsibility

Responsibility comprises many things. Every worker participates in different fields according to his/her level of education or profession. It should be clear that there are differences in the level of

responsibilities. Therefore, development can be achieved when everyone is concerned with his/her responsibilities.

Key Words

Graduation:	Receiving a document after completing a level of education
Patriotic:	One who contributes a result from any work that he/she is engaged in
Quality:	Standardized result
Promise:	Assurance of an oral agreement
Ethics:	A concept that tells whether the behaviour/character of one is right or wrong
Moral:	Measurement for good or bad actions of someone. Seen by the community
Heritage:	Indicator of time and history and indicator of pre-historic civilization of man
Park:	Conservation/preservation area for wild life, birds, and plants
Labourer/Worker:	A person who gives his/her labour physically

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. A promise is confirmation of an oral, which can be exercised by oneself and others.
2. Only coming to the agreement work place does not make a person fulfill his/her responsibility.
3. The responsibilities of all workers are different according to their level of job.
4. A park is a place for conserving/preserving wild life, different plant species and birds.
5. The spread of HIV/AIDS is caused by poverty and, backwardness.

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

A	B
1. Responsibility	(A) Indicates areas and history
2. Family	(B) To do things voluntarily or by order
3. Red-fox	(C) Economic sector that generates income from visitors.
4. Natural resource	(D) Obstacle to development and anti-human being.
5. Tourism	(E) A resource that can be developed through human knowledge and skill.
6. HIV/AIDS	(F) Organization of parents and children
7. Historical heritage	(G) Exotic

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

1. Completing any work efficiently and effectively is called _____.
2. If gold, bronze, iron and potassium are _____, theological books, churches monasteries, and Mosques are _____.
3. One of the problems that weakens the development of a country is _____.

IV. Choose the correct answer for the following questions

1. Fulfilling responsibility with loyalty and honesty means:
 - (a) Being patient
 - (b) Lack of initiative to work voluntarily or by order
 - (c) Hard work for efficiency and to fulfill ones responsibility
 - (d) Being co-operative.
2. Fulfilling the advice and guidance of the family indicates;
 - (a) To helping at home
 - (b) Violation of ethical behaviours
 - (c) Lack of sufficient time for study
 - (d) Keeping promises.
3. If everyone fulfills his/her responsibility;
 - (a) It does not create problems for ones social life
 - (b) Promises can be kept
 - (c) Continuation of a peaceful life
 - (d) All of the above.
4. Which of the following does not explain people's civilization and culture?
 - (a) Natural resources
 - (b) Historical/cultural books
 - (c) Historical/cultural heritage
 - (d) Elder people's memories.
5. The responsibility to protect the spread of HIV/AIDS is
 - (a) Exposure of how it spreads
 - (b) Isolation of the HIV/AIDS victim
 - (c) Understanding its ways of transmission and taking care
 - (d) Minimizing social relations/interactions.

V. Give short answers for the following questions

1. When does keeping promises fulfill responsibility?
2. What is a park? Whose responsibility is it to protect all natural resources in the parks?
3. Explain the problems of children of HIV/AIDS victim parents.