

Responsibility

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

- understand the necessity of keeping promise.
- admit the necessity to discharge citizenship responsibilities.
- realize the importance of taking care of national resources and historical heritages.
- recognize effects of HIV/AIDS on economic and social issues of a country.

6.1 Discharging Responsibility

6.1.1 The Significance of Discharging Responsibilities



Picture 6.1. Fire brigade at work

- Why are the fire brigade committed with such dedication?
- If people in the picture failed to extinguish that fire, what kind of problem could have occurred?

Sacrifice

Interviewers were from different age groups. But all came with expressions of respect and compassion. Though Ato Tamene was looked at closely by

different groups, he was looking no one. He was unconscious.

Students who sat around his bed with sorrow and appreciation and other people were quite silent. He was in a condition in which it was impossible to identify him, since his hands, legs and head were bandaged.

Though Ato Tamene survived, for long days he failed to talk and to see others. But on that day, surprisingly he started to talk. He was also able to see. That moment, he put the first question “Have these guys survived?” Expressing happiness and interest, the students said “Yes we survived ... we are safe ... Thank you.” Their voices were heard beyond the bedroom. Immediately, a lot of flowers were dropped on his bed. The room which has been silent becomes warm due to joy and clapping.

The reason for the fire was the carelessness of Kacha, Janitor of Tsedey Bukaya School. He carelessly dropped a piece of cigarette on an electric wire. All the classrooms burnt down. Fire brigade groups, which were called via the telephone, came courageously and promptly and saved a lot of students and property. Of all groups, the commitment of Ato Tamene was surprising. He courageously went into the fire to save grade 7 students who were left behind. In the meantime, he encountered fire and smoke, which made him unconscious and then people took him to hospital.

After controlling the fire, Kacha was taken to prison and he also admitted the case. Since he was intoxicated and saved nothing, his families were dispersed when he was arrested. His sick

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wife became a beggar. His children by dropping schooling became street children. However, since Ato Tamene was loyal to his work and profession, he has discharged his responsibility effectively. He has received gratitude due to saving the lives of students who are the successors of the future of the country. He received award, gratitude and appreciation from different organizations, which came to visit him. Furthermore, Ato Tamene achieved honour and love from people.

Activity 1

On basis of the passage, answer the following questions:

1. What is sacrifice?
2. What do you understand from the practice of Ato Tamene?
3. Explain the difference regarding discharging their responsibilities effectively between Ato Tamene and Kacha Boru.

The significance of discharging responsibility effectively

When it is seen in detail, in addition to personal and social progress, it is one base for a country's development. Any person when he/she discharges his/her responsibilities, the primary achievement is mental satisfaction. He/she brings significant change to his/her life on the basis of income he/she incurs due to being a committed worker.

Individuals who discharge their responsibilities are loyal. Their loyalty is supported by their practice. They have also social acceptance. Individuals who discharge their responsibilities are respected by the objectives and achievements and are exemplary individuals. Such persons empower their life by their work and achievements. Furthermore, they facilitate the development endeavour of a country.

Activity 2

Answer the following questions:

1. What does discharging responsibility effectively mean?
2. Mention the significance of discharging responsibility effectively.

Consequences of not discharging responsibilities effectively

- What kind of effects are there due to not discharging the responsibility effectively?

A person who fails to carry out his/her responsibilities effectively impoverishes him/her self and families. Since his/her failure is a constraint for development and progress, he/she hinders privileges and changes of a society. A person has no acceptance from the people hence no one is going to delegate him/her for different cases. He/she cannot bring changes into the life of his/her families. Since children from such an individual grow without ethics, they eventually, become burden and threats of a society. So, every person has to discharge his/her responsibilities effectively and dedicatedly.

Activity 3

Answer the following questions:

1. Explain the effect of not discharging responsibilities at personal or individual level.
2. What does the private and public life of a person not discharging his/her responsibility look like?

6.2 Keeping the Promise

- What is a promise?
- What is the advantage of keeping a promise?

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The broken promise

There is a non-governmental humanitarian organization, which is called “Ifoyita Orphanage”. Due to its plans, strategies of implementation and the promise it promised for the people, it has the recognition from the government. It became seven years since it has started to work by gathering more than 200 children who have lost their families by HIV/AIDS and other causes. Due to its communication with internal as well as external humanitarian organizations, for the purpose of care and progress of children, it has gained a number of financial and material supports.

However, except for administrators and workers of the organization, those children do not have a good appearance. They are frustrated and offended by issues. The mature ones though discharging the imposed work are highly frustrated with broken spirits. Those students expected to grow well morally and physically and to be educated to be the careers of tomorrow are left aside by being deprived of the right of education.

The victim-youngsters planned to apply the case to the court by considering that the organization has broken the promise it had made earlier. First they made those member children of the organization understand the imposition going on. Furthermore, they invited member children of the organization to appear in person on a day they proposed to raise their questions. Thereafter, on the day they agreed, they raised the question by being in front of the administration office of the organization. Let us get appropriate opportunity of education, fair distribution of work, appropriate food, clothes and proper time to study.

The higher administrative bodies were offended by the case and decided to fire the leading students and to penalize the others. However, the kebele and other concerned organizations took the case seriously and identified that the organization has “broken

the promise”. Therefore, on the contrary leaders of the organization were fired eventually. In place of them, responsible individuals were assigned and the children were able to get the right to education.

Activity 4

Answer the following questions on the basis of the above passage:

1. What kind of problems were created by the organization which had not worked on the basis of the promise?
2. What would be the advantage of the organization if it had properly discharged its responsibilities?

Keeping promise indicates spiritual strengthen and competence of discharging responsibilities. Basically, a promise is an honoured word that confirms the belief. It is a conformation for individuals by organizations and government and the indication of loyalty of the person for his/her promise put into practice.

Discharging responsibilities and keeping promises are expected from every kind of work and from every person at all levels. It is obvious that practical achievements of individuals, institutions, government and non-governmental organizations are bases for the development of society and a country at large. Therefore, those organizations have to strengthen their promises and work for fundamental changes of the country.

Breaking a promise is theft. Unwise use of time and promise is considered as a crime. When individuals, government and non-governmental organizations are disloyal and unsuccessful, it leads to dishonour and disregard. Furthermore, since things have not been done in time and effectively, it affects the identity and advantages of a society. Such things hinder the development of the country.

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Activity 5

Discuss the following questions:

1. What is the significance of carrying out a promise?
2. What is the significance of keeping a promise at individual level?

6.3 Natural Resources and Historical Heritages

6.3.1 Effects of not Protecting Natural Resources and Historical Heritages

- What do you understand from the picture?



Picture 6.2. Deforestation of trees

The concern of all peoples

Ethiopia, has been endowed with natural resources. A large part of our country is covered by forests. Those forests were the home of a number of different endemic and wild animals. However, today surprisingly, due to the deterioration of those natural resources, the effects of climatic change and other problems are observable.

Non-protecting natural resources has effects such as reducing agricultural products, change of natural climate and erosion of the soil by water and wind. This is the basic reason for the death of a number of animals and even human beings. To avoid such problems, it is important to take care and

to rehabilitate forests. Since the absence of forests causes erosion of soil, it highly reduces productivity. Animals and birds hosted in the forest would be extinct or forced to migrate to other area which reduces the income of tourism. Due to distortion of climatic balance, poverty and desertification expands. Non-protection of natural resource became the major reason for death and migration of animals and birds at the whole world level. Therefore, it is the responsibility of each citizen to rehabilitate the lost and deteriorated natural resources as per his/her knowledge and capacity.

Hence, it is important to struggle against deforestation and carrying out reforestation by creating public awareness which has to be sustainable for the future. It is obviously each citizen's duty to stand for development and change to take care of natural resources, which are employed to support the economy of the country.

Activity 6

Discuss on the following questions:

1. In what conditions do our natural resources exist?
2. What are effects of deforestation?
3. What is the significance of rehabilitation for the development of tourism?

Natural resources and historical heritages are the basis for the existence and centres for historical expression of the identity of the people. Natural resources are wild animals, birds, domestic animals and plants. Furthermore, soil, minerals, water and marine plants and animals are also coming under this category. But currently, they are deteriorating due to mishandling.

There is climatic change with expansion of deforestation. This is making human life problematic and challenging. Basic problems of desertification which are challenging human life such as poverty,

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migration, hunger, conflict and dispute are occurring here and there due to deforestation. Furthermore, since forest residing animals and birds are migrating to other areas, it reduces income that would be incurred from Tourism. This has a great effect upon the country's economy.

Our country became known and interesting today due to the inherited skills and knowledge from our forefathers via different historical heritages. Non-protecting those historical heritages, which are expressions of identity, is disregarding our responsibility. When historical heritages are destroyed and unwisely handled, the history of a country is reduced. It will not be attractive for Tourists. If historical heritages are not protected, it has an effect on economy and history. Like natural resources, historical heritages have a number of advantages and every citizen has to give care and protection to them.

Activity 7

Discuss the following points:

1. What are the causes of desertification?
2. Mention your roles of protecting historical heritages.

6.4 HIV/AIDS

- Mention the effects of HIV/AIDS.
- Explain the reason for the fast expansion of the disease.

Knowing oneself

A given Injera factory, employing three thousand workers with good salaries, helps an average nine thousand families. By producing an Injera, which is always wanted, has incurred ten million profits in a year. But in next year, since two hundred fifty core factory professional workers died of HIV/AIDS, the work was disturbed and the profit of the factory was reduced by three million birr.

Due to the expansion of HIV/AIDS, a lot of workers became absent from work. Therefore, the factory started to search for a solution for the problem. First, it made sure that all workers had adequate knowledge about the disease. Secondly, all were to take a blood test. Then the infected were to follow appropriate medication and the negative ones were made to lead proper life with due care. The achievements of the factory got back to its former status within very short-time.

Activity 8

Answer the following questions on basis of the above passage:

1. How do you realize the expansion of HIV/AIDS?
2. Mention the effects of losing productive forces due to the disease.
3. What kind of solution is there currently, for HIV/AIDS?

HIV/AIDS is a fatal disease, which is expanding rapidly and challenging the human survival. Though a number of attempts were made by scientists, no creative medications have been found to date. Yet now, millions of individuals have lost their lives. From the infected groups, 70% are existing in sub-Saharan African countries. Our country has large share. This indicates, such countries failed to create awareness about the effect and way of transmission of the disease.

As some researches indicate, in our country, individuals mainly more than age of 15 are highly infected. This age indicates that those groups could be activists of the country's development and social change. These are mainly productive sections trained in different professions, learning and training in different sectors. The death of those individuals, which cannot be replaced, has broad problems. The following are major problems of HIV/AIDS.

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1. Social problems

- A. High responsibility of the family to take care of the victim.
- B. Unnecessary expense to carry out funeral ceremony.
- C. Children are left without care.
- D. Old people who lose their children due to the disease are left helpless.
- E. Weakening of Idir and narrowing of burial places.

2. Economic problems

- A. Medical expenses for preparing a number of beds in hospitals which is the burden for country's economy.
- B. Other related diseases such as TB, cancer etc., need additional expenses.
- C. When trained workers of factories are dead, production decreases.
- D. The death of farmers reduce agricultural products, raw materials for industry, and a food supply to urban people.

Therefore, it becomes a problem to get citizens with knowledge, skill and right attitudes. What has to be done?

The first thing is, identifying and understanding the means of transmission and binding oneself to the appropriate life situation. There is no curative medicament for infected persons. While keeping him/her self from the disease, creating the awareness for others is one of the ways of discharging responsibility by a responsible citizen to control the extent of expansion. It is important to discharge citizenship duties by being involved in teaching and awareness creation activities coordinated by the government and other organizations. If such collaborative works are effectively done, obviously it is possible to reduce the expansion of disease.

Mainly, the way of transmission is unsafe sex and from infected mother to child. Therefore, to control those ways of transmission:

- A. Not having sex before marriage (abstinence)
- B. Having blood test before marriage
- C. Trusting (A wife to her husband and vice versa)
- D. If a pregnant mother is infected she must get medical treatment and consultation to stop the virus transmission from mother to child.

In addition to aforementioned ways of transmissions, it is important to take care of harmful traditional practices which could be way of transmission. Avoiding harmful practices such as traditional way of female genital mutilation, cutting uvula, avoiding milk teeth, making unnecessary permanent marks on body, are important to reduce the extent of expansion. Furthermore, using some materials in common carelessness such as tooth brush, hair combs, bladder, syringes, and other sharp materials is not recommended.

Therefore, taking due care, commitment and loyalty to the partner has to be started today to discharge citizenship responsibility effectively. HIV/AIDS is our hostile enemy that we can win with due care if we work with dedication.

Activity 9

Discuss the following questions:

1. By taking at least two sub-Saharan African countries, mention the reasons behind the fast expansion of HIV/AIDS.
2. How does the expansion of HIV/AIDS enhance poverty?
3. Mention in detail the effect of losing scholars and professional productive groups by the disease.

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Summary

Jobs are the basis for progress and prosperity. It can be effective when involved workers are discharging their responsibilities effectively in each sector. Development and social change activate hard workers who respect their promise and are effective in society. Hence, they are loyal, honoured and exemplary individuals in society. Non-responsible individuals on the other side are endangering themselves and the community.

Every citizen is expected to discharge the responsibility effectively and to keep the promise to protect and use natural resources and historical heritages properly. Unless those resources, get due care and protection from all, they will be destroyed. Those resources are historical expressions and basis

of survival and, the eventual result would be total destruction.

To keep promises and to discharge responsibilities effectively it is important to take care of his/her problems such as HIV/AIDS. It is important to realize that keeping him/her self from the pandemic disease, HIV/AIDS, which has no medicament yet, is among the major ways of discharging responsibilities. Since citizens are the major resources of a country, to be a significant person for him/her self and for his/her country, combating HIV/AIDS is the major option. Knowing the ways of transmission and taking care of them and making others aware of these issues are expected from responsible citizens. To discharge these responsibilities honestly we have to promise from this day onwards.

Key Words

<i>Fire accident:</i>	Damage due to fire
<i>Sacrifice:</i>	Dedication of oneself for others case
<i>Conscience:</i>	Mental reasoning or understanding
<i>Offense:</i>	Dissatisfaction
<i>Disloyalty:</i>	Not being loyal
<i>Pandemic:</i>	Highly expanding
<i>Rehabilitation:</i>	Recovering the lost elements
<i>Promise:</i>	Vow or a word or words to be done
<i>Burden:</i>	Responsibility

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. Individuals who are discharging their responsibilities effectively are loyal and disloyal.
2. To be active in development and change, education and life principles are important.
3. The success of promise is measured against implementation and achievement.
4. If natural resources are not protected, they will become extinct from the land mass.
5. HIV/AIDS, has an effect upon individuals, it has no such effect at country level.

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

A

1. Disloyalty
2. Spiritual strength and effectiveness
3. Drought
4. Desertification
5. Historical heritages
6. Sacrifice
7. Breaking promise

B

- A. Climatic change due to deforestation
- B. Achieving effective result by loyalty
- C. Committing oneself for others case
- D. Disregarding responsibility
- E. Rehabilitation of plants and forests and using them for irrigation
- F. Lying and valuelessness
- G. The expression of past civilization
- H. Sandiness

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

1. The dedication of peoples for others and their country is said _____.
2. Economic development and change of life happens when individuals discharge their _____ effectively.
3. _____ is important to keep the soil non-eroded and to protect climatic change.
4. The main means of transmission of HIV/AIDS are _____ and _____.
5. Not to be people without history, it is important to take care of _____.

IV. Choose the correct answer for the following questions

1. Individuals who cause damage due to carelessness are _____.
(a) Fast individuals (b) Illiterate ones
(c) Those unable to discharge responsibilities (d) Cannot be models.
2. Discharging responsibilities effectively
(a) Has no personal advantage (b) Brings spiritual satisfaction and changes in human life
(c) Has no relation with promise (d) Not an exemplary role.
3. To expand tourism industry
(a) Selling heritages (b) Knowing natural resources and historical heritages
(c) Destroying forests to pave roads (d) Protecting natural and historical heritages.
4. Traditional practices which can transmit HIV/AIDS are
(a) Maintaining dislocation of bodies (b) Genital mutilation and avoidance of milk teeth
(c) Maintaining broken parts of body (d) Smelling of certain plants.
5. HIV/AIDS highly expands in sub-Saharan countries due to
(a) Low-understanding of the disease and absence of cares
(b) Desertification
(c) The climatic condition suitable for the virus (d) Absence of balanced diet.

V. Give short answers for the following questions

1. What are advantages of discharging responsibilities effectively at individual, social and country level?
2. What is the responsibility of citizens to sustain our history and to be proud of our country?
3. How value and honour is given to life?