

Case Study: Aaron and Sophie

Names: _____

Instructions: Please read the following story and respond, as a group, to the questions listed beneath it.

Aaron and Sophie have lived down the hall from each other in the same apartment building since they were little kids. They have played together, stuck up for each other, fought with each other, played house and doctor and Xbox and American Girl dolls. Their parents gave them keys to each others' apartments and they come and go from each place as if they had two places to live. If something bothers either of them – even if it's something the other one did – they talk about it right away. Sophie is probably the only person outside of his family who's seen Aaron cry, and Sophie has told Aaron more about her dreams for the future than she's told her own sister. They do homework together and go to each others' events at school (Aaron is in the jazz band and Sophie plays soccer). Now that they're in the 6th grade, they have started liking other people as more than friends, and both would like to have a boyfriend or girlfriend. They talk with each other about who they like or don't like, and about who they can't believe likes them. Sophie really likes someone who's in jazz band with Aaron and even though Aaron doesn't like Sophie as more than a friend, he feels a little jealous. When they hang out later in the day, Aaron tells her, even though it's really hard, about how he's feeling. Sophie tells him she's felt the same, and reminds him that he's her best friend and that nothing will change that. They end up going out for pizza, where they see some other friends and they all have a really nice time together.

What kind of a relationship is this?

What five words would you use to describe their relationship, or how they are with each other?

1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____
 5. _____
- _____

Looking at those words, which would you say are POSITIVE, and which are NEGATIVE?
Please put a "+" next to the ones you think are positive, and a "-" next to the ones you think are negative.

Case Study: Olivia and Dylan

Names: _____

Instructions: Please read the following story and respond, as a group, to the questions listed beneath it.

Olivia is a newer sixth grade student, having just moved to the area over the summer. On the first day of school, she notices Dylan, and thinks Dylan is kind of cute. Dylan sees Olivia and thinks she's cute, too. Olivia has already met a few students so Dylan asks someone to ask those students what they know about Olivia – especially whether she likes anyone. Olivia hears that Dylan's been asking about her and decides to find excuses to walk past Dylan's locker. Dylan pretends not to see her, until one day, Olivia pretends to trip and drops her books. Dylan helps her pick them up, they start talking, and decide to hang out after school. This leads to hanging out a few more days that week, texting and FaceTime every night, and finally, one afternoon when they're watching a movie, a kiss. Officially a couple, they spend as much time on their own as they can, kissing and touching each other. Everything's going great, although Olivia feels like other students are now interested in Dylan since they became a couple. She doesn't say anything because she doesn't want to seem jealous (even though she is). Dylan doesn't get why Olivia seems mad about something. She even asked to borrow Dylan's phone "to look something up," but then went through Dylan's texts. Dylan didn't like that, but didn't say anything. Besides, Olivia kissed Dylan when she returned the phone and that always fixes things! One afternoon, Olivia says, "So... you want to hang out alone?" Dylan doesn't think it's a good idea because his parents aren't home. But, Olivia shows up at Dylan's house anyway. "Should I say something? This doesn't feel right" – all these thoughts start going through Dylan's head. Dylan's phone rings, and it's Dylan's mom saying she's on her way home. Dylan tells Olivia his mom will be home any minute, kisses her, says, "You're so beautiful, I'll text you later," and Olivia leaves.

What kind of a relationship is this?

What five words would you use to describe their relationship, or how they are with each other?

1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____
 5. _____
- _____

Looking at those words, which would you say are POSITIVE, and which are NEGATIVE? Please put a "+" next to the ones you think are positive, and a "-" next to the ones you think are negative.