

# A MATTER OF ETHICS

**Instructions:** Read the following case studies. Rank each study on a scale of 1 (being ethical) and 5 (being not ethical). Then, be prepared to discuss with your teacher!

## Case 1

Rob has a placement at the local architect's office. One of the important rules is that no plans can be shared with people outside of the office. Wanting to get some ideas for his school project Rob decides to bring the plans to school to study them a little more carefully. He intends to return them the next day.

1	2	3	4	5
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## Case 2

Cameron works every morning at a health club from 9am-12pm as written in his contract. When his supervisor is away for meetings, Cameron leave 15 minutes early so that he has time to eat lunch before his afternoon classes begin at school. When the supervisor and teacher refer to the logs, the hours are always recorded from 9am-12pm. Cameron feels it is fair to include the transportation time into his co-op hours.

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## Case 3

One Friday morning the work load was just so enormous that you felt you couldn't possibly get it all done. Your boss stresses that she has a deadline to meet and asks you kindly to stay an extra half hour to get the work completed. It would help her greatly, so you decide to stay even though it means you'll be late for your afternoon classes.

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## Case 4

A manufacturing company has just been informed from their Research and Development team that a more cost effective method of production has been found. Unfortunately, along with this production process comes a 2% increase of pollutant emitted into the air. Management decides to accept the R&D's proposal since it will ensure the company meets its profit projections as outline in the company's business plan.

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### Case 5

Melissa is very happy working in her accounting placement. She spends 3 hours a day at the office, most of which is spent performing accounting or office-related duties. The remainder of the time is spent running errands for her employer. For example, last week Melissa picked up the employer's dry cleaning, purchased coffee for the office, and picked up lunch orders for the employees.

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### Case 6

Carlos is almost finished his work placement in a law office. While doing some routine filing, he comes across a familiar name. He realizes that a student from his math class was charged with shoplifting last month. Knowing how serious this information is, Carlos only decided to tell his best friend. Besides, his placement is almost finished and at that point he won't need to follow the office regulations.

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### Case 7

A small computer company is in the process of selecting a new supplier. A week before a decision must be made; the manager of the computer company receives two free tickets to see his favourite football team play in action. One of the supplier has obviously take the time to discover that the manager has been looking everywhere for these tickets. The manager sees this as an act of kindness, and finds no problem in accepting the tickets.

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### Case 8

Lisa has just started her placement that began with a                    I orientation of the auto shop. Lisa thinks everything is going well so far except that the employer wants her to become familiar with all the work site rules, regulations, and safety procedures ASAP and Lisa feels this is not fair since she is only at the work site for a semester (4 month period).

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### Case 9

Catherine works in a retail establishment. This week the store is really busy because of its end of season clearance sale. While ringing up a purchase on the cash register, Catherine accidentally pushes \$19.79 instead of \$19.99. Voiding the transaction would take too long and Catherine has not been trained in this area. Instead she decides to follow through with the sale. Besides, it's only 20 cents, and nobody will know who rung up the sale.

1	2	3	4	5
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