

# Unit 7 - Have Compassion

abuse / compassion / course / dictate / duplicate / feeble / moral / nonchalant / senseless / taunt

## **7A Introduction**

It takes a lot of courage to stand up to a bully. But it takes even more courage to stand up to a whole group of people when they are doing something that is wrong. It's easy to go along with a crowd, but that doesn't mean it's right.

## **7B Song Lyrics**

*You've got to have compassion.*

Another morning, getting ready for school,  
I had a bowl of cereal, some juice, and everything's cool.  
So I put on my shoes and get ready to walk,  
And make my daily trip to the bus stop.  
It was cold—hey, at least it didn't snow,  
But when the bus came, we were all ready to go.  
So as usual, I sit in the back,  
Next to this kid from another neighborhood, Zach.  
Now Zach's cool, but you could say he was **feeble**,  
A little quieter and weaker than other people.  
For this reason the other kids would **taunt** him,  
Call him bad names and throw insults upon him.  
Now Zach didn't deserve this **abuse**,  
For the mean words they used, there was no excuse.  
But I pretended to be **nonchalant**,  
Calm and unconcerned with what was going on.  
But that's when I heard a voice in my head,  
It sounded like my conscience, and this is what she said:

Man, you ought to be ashamed; this bullying is **senseless**,  
There is no reason that you're leaving him defenseless.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I'll tell you what to do; it is my job to **dictate**,  
 You've got to change your **course**,  
 Or plan of action, for the kid's sake.  
 So here's your chance to wheel it back and do it over,  
 The **moral** of the story is the lesson that I'll show you.

**Compassion**—you've got to have compassion,  
 You see somebody suffering, you've got to take action.  
 Well, what kind of action?  
 Take away the pain,  
 If you help people then they will do the same.  
 Compassion? Yeah, you've got to have compassion.  
 You see somebody suffering, you've got to take action.  
 Um, what kind of action?  
 Take away the pain,  
 Let's try this again and you can make the change.

Another morning, getting ready for school,  
 I had a bowl of cereal, some juice, and everything's cool.  
 So I put on my shoes and get ready to walk,  
 And make my daily trip to the bus stop.  
 It was cold—hey, at least it didn't snow,  
 But when the bus came, we were all ready to go.  
 So as usual, I sit in the back,  
 Next to this kid from another neighborhood, Zach.  
 Now Zach's cool, but you could say he was feeble,  
 A little quieter and weaker than other people.  
 For this reason the other kids would taunt him,  
 Call him bad names and throw insults upon him.  
 But Zach didn't deserve this abuse,  
 For the mean words they used, there was no excuse.  
 This time I couldn't be nonchalant,  
 I was way too concerned with what was going on.  
 I told the other kids Zach was my friend,  
 And asked them to not be mean to him again.  
 Then they kind of laughed 'cause they thought I was faking,  
 They didn't realize the new path I had taken.  
 I said, "The reason ya'll attack and harass is  
 You're embarrassed about your pimples and your glasses."  
 Together all of us could be cool if we all lived by the golden rule of...

**Compassion**—you've got to have compassion,  
 You see somebody suffering, you've got to take action.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*What kind of action?*

*Take away the pain,*

*If you help people then they will do the same.*

*Compassion—you've got to have compassion,*

*You see somebody suffering, you've got to take action.*

*Yeah, what kind of action?*

*Take away the pain,*

*And that's what I did; I'm really glad I made the change.*

Nice! You did the right thing and I'm proud of you,

The other kids will **duplicate**, that's do the same and follow you.

You showed strength today in doing what you got to do,

It's hard to know what's right, and even harder still to follow through.

You saw somebody's pain and then you took action,

To help him out and that's the meaning of compassion.

You're more than just a kid; you acted like a man today,

The **moral** of the story is the lesson that you take away.

*Compassion—you've got to have compassion,*

*You see somebody suffering, you've got to take action.*

*Well, what kind of action?*

*Take away the pain,*

*If you help people then they will do the same.*

*Compassion? Yeah, you've got to have compassion.*

*You see somebody suffering, you've got to take action.*

*Um, what kind of action?*

*Take away the pain,*

*Let's try this again and you can make the change.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## 7C Words Defined

abuse / compassion / course / dictate / duplicate / feeble / moral / nonchalant / senseless / taunt

### abuse

**(noun)** Wrong or cruel treatment; insulting language. *Our principal said she had every right to make us eat lunch in silence, but I thought it was a form of **abuse**.*

**(verb)** To use wrongly or treat poorly. *Thankfully, Spider-Man never really **abused** his powers for personal gain.*

### compassion

**(noun)** A feeling of sharing the suffering of others and of wanting to help; sympathy; pity. *Feeling **compassion** for Franz after the loss of his pet, Jane offered to buy him a new puppy.*

Other forms: *Tim doesn't get the best grades, but he is **compassionate** (adj) and caring.*



### compassion

### course

**(noun)** 1. A direction, path, or route to be taken. *The bike **course** led us past the old factory and deep down into the forest.* 2. A class that teaches something. *My older sister is taking a writing **course** at the local college.*

**(verb)** To move quickly through or over. *The little girl, with tears **coursing** down her cheeks, jumped into her mother's arms.*

### dictate

**(verb)** 1. To give orders; to make something happen a certain way. *Who should **dictate** what books we read in school—the teachers or the students?* 2. To read or say out loud for someone to write down. *John Milton was blind, so he **dictated** his famous poem, Paradise Lost, to his daughters.*

### duplicate

**(verb)** To copy exactly; to do again exactly as before. *The magician performed the kind of trick that no other magician could **duplicate**.*

**(noun)** An exact copy. *No snowflake is a **duplicate** of another.*

**(adj)** Identically copied from the original. *They built one school near the park and then a **duplicate** school two miles down the road.*

### feeble

**(adj)** Having little strength, weak. *The mouse, which looked rather **feeble**, let out a surprisingly loud yell.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**moral**

**(noun)** 1. A useful lesson about life. *The **moral** of the story was to always give people a second chance.* 2. morals: Ideas about what is wrong or right in life. *Thanks to his strong **morals**, Richie was never tempted to steal things, even when given the chance.*

**(adj)** Related to what is right and wrong. *Why do people like being nice? Why do people have a **moral** instinct?*

**nonchalant**

**(adj)** Having the appearance of not caring; seeming to show a lack of concern. *Vance tried to act all **nonchalant**, but we knew that deep down inside he was really happy to get the lead in the play.*

**senseless**

**(adj)** Lacking meaning; stupid or foolish. *I don't mind seeing a fight scene in a movie; I just hate **senseless** violence.*

**taunt**

**(verb)** To make fun of in an insulting way; to jeer. *My friend wouldn't stop **taunting** me after she beat me four straight times at my favorite video game.*

**taunt**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **7D Synonyms**

*Circle the word on the right that matches the meaning of the word or phrase on the left.*

abuse / compassion / course / dictate / duplicate / feeble / moral / nonchalant / senseless / taunt

1. to give orders	dictate	abuse	course
2. to treat poorly	abuse	dictate	duplicate
3. lacking meaning	moral	feeble	senseless
4. related to right and wrong	compassionate	moral	feeble
5. a path	course	duplicate	moral

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **7E Fill in the Blank**

*Write the word in the blank so that the sentence makes sense.*

abuse / compassion / course / dictate / duplicate / feeble / moral / nonchalant / senseless / taunt

1. Sarah volunteers at the homeless shelter, so she has a lot of \_\_\_\_\_ for people who are down on their luck.

**moral**

**compassion**

**course**

2. Norbert hated riding the bus because he was \_\_\_\_\_ every day by the big kids who sat in the back.

**taunted**

**duplicated**

**dictated**

3. I was annoyed that Trent made such a \_\_\_\_\_ attempt at catching the ball; we could have won if he'd tried harder.

**moral**

**senseless**

**feeble**

4. I went through my computer and deleted all the \_\_\_\_\_ songs.

**nonchalant**

**duplicate**

**moral**

5. My mom is \_\_\_\_\_ about her cooking skills, but I think she could make tons of money if she opened a restaurant.

**duplicate**

**nonchalant**

**compassionate**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **7F Connections**

Each sentence has a strong connection with one of the words from the unit. Write the correct word on the line below.

hi | zl '6j vt whzzp'u'6j v | yzl '6k p {h{l '6k | w p h{l '6rhl i s '6t vyhs'6uvuj ohshu{'6zl uzl s zz'6{h| u{

1. The giant laughed at the townspeople's weak attempts at attacking him.

---

2. I did not understand the meaning of that movie in the slightest.

---

3. This sentence is written twice. This sentence is written twice.

---

4. It was impossible to not feel bad for the poor family who lost their home in the tornado.

---

5. Ginnie is a great basketball player, even though she doesn't seem to care about it at all.

---



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **7G Applying Meanings**

Circle the letter that makes sense or answers the question.

*abuse / compassion / course / dictate / duplicate / feeble / moral / nonchalant / senseless / taunt*

1. Which of these is a kind of **course**?  
(A) a grocery store  
(B) Mexico City  
(C) salt  
(D) social studies
2. An **abused** textbook would probably be  
(A) boring  
(B) in bad shape  
(C) well made  
(D) a math book
3. A person who enjoys **taunting** people is called  
(A) a scholar  
(B) an athlete  
(C) a bully  
(D) a teacher
4. Which might be the **moral** of a story?  
(A) "Be nice to others and they will be nice to you."  
(B) "Jackie couldn't remember how she had gotten into this mess."  
(C) "And they lived happily ever after."  
(D) "Once upon a time, there lived an evil queen."
5. Who or what **dictates** the rules in a classroom?  
(A) the teacher  
(B) a troublemaker  
(C) the books  
(D) the chalkboard

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## 7H Reading

Read the passage below and then answer the questions that follow.

*abuse / compassion / course / dictate / duplicate / feeble / moral / nonchalant / senseless / taunt*

# Be Kind to Cows!

If you're like most Americans, you probably eat beef. You might not think much about where that beef comes from because you probably get your beef from a grocery store. When it is wrapped in a package, it is easy to forget that beef comes from cows, and it's easy to feel **nonchalant** about how that animal is treated. However, the way that beef is produced today raises questions for some people.

They think the way we raise cows is a **moral** problem. Most of the cattle in America are raised on big farms or ranches. These cattle ranches are very different from the idea of a farm that you might have in your head. In the farms on TV and in books, many different kinds of animals are raised.



But most big farms only raises one type of animal or grow one type of food. They like to do things in a way that takes up the least amount of time and uses the least money. So they found an inexpensive way to feed their animals. Corn is inexpensive, and it helps their animals grow more quickly than grass. Today, most cows that you eat are raised on a diet that includes a lot of corn.

This raises questions because in the wild, cows eat grass. Their stomachs cannot digest corn as easily as they can digest grass. Some people even think that feeding cows something that they are not meant to eat is a type of animal **abuse**. Cattle ranchers say that they gradually change their cows' diet so that they get used to eating the corn, and it doesn't bother them. Some farmers give their cows antibiotics to help them digest the corn. Still other people think it's **senseless** to worry about this. If the cows are going to be eaten anyway, why should we treat them well? It makes life better for the cows to treat them with **compassion**.

Humans have always eaten meat. That probably won't stop. But we can treat our cows well when they are alive. They will be happier, and we will feel better about the way we treat them!

1. According to the passage, where is most beef in America raised?

---

2. What is a difference between big farms/ranches and small farms?

---

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

3. According to some people, what is wrong with feeding corn to cows?

---

4. What do cattle ranchers do to help cows digest corn?

---

5. Why should we treat cows well?

---

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **7I Thinking Creatively**

Answer each question below. Don't be afraid to think creatively.

abuse / compassion / course / dictate / duplicate / feeble / moral / nonchalant / senseless / taunt

1. Finish this sentence: "I have a lot of **compassion** for..."

---

2. What would you do if you could **duplicate** yourself?

---

3. If you could take a **course** in any subject, what would it be and why?

---

4. Give some **senseless** advice.

---

5. What would be the **moral** to your life story?

---

## **Word Breakdown**

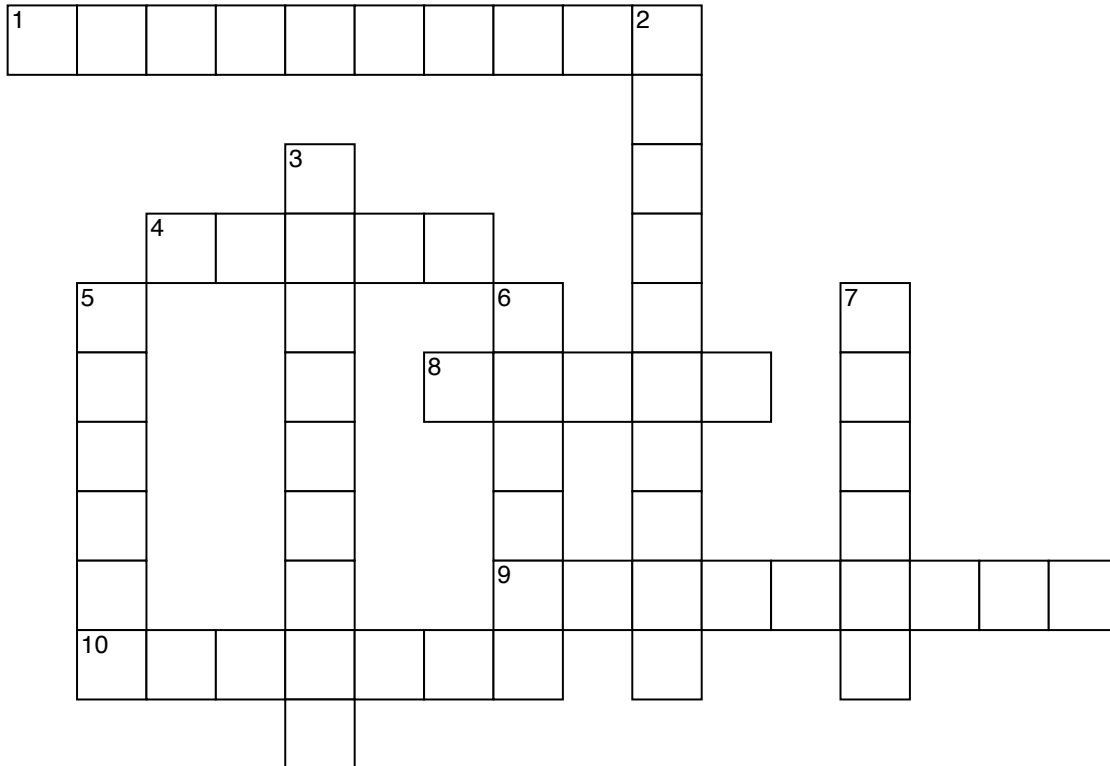
You probably recognize the root of the word *dictate*. The root *dic-* is a Latin root meaning "talk or declare." The word *dictionary* comes from this root, as do the words *indicate* ("to point out"), *contradict* ("to disagree with"), and *dictator* ("one who has complete authority").

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Bonus: Crossword Puzzle**

Solve this crossword puzzle. Note: Some answers may be different forms of the vocab words from this unit.

abuse / compassion / course / dictate / duplicate / feeble / moral / nonchalant / senseless / taunt



### **ACROSS**

- 1 My mom taught us to have a lot of \_\_\_\_\_ for people who have less than we do.
- 4 To make fun of in an insulting way.
- 8 Apologizing when you've done something wrong is the \_\_\_\_\_ thing to do.
- 9 This song is completely \_\_\_\_\_; what the heck does "toush et lele poo" mean?
- 10 I don't think I could write a book with my broken hand, but I might be able to \_\_\_\_\_ one to someone else.

### **DOWN**

- 2 Parker is \_\_\_\_\_ about everything; does he ever get excited?
- 3 If I had a machine that could \_\_\_\_\_ money, I'd be the richest person on Earth.
- 5 The teacher thought Miranda might have been \_\_\_\_\_ when she came to school with a black eye.
- 6 My oldest brother teaches a \_\_\_\_\_ in basket-weaving at the local art center; he sure does love weaving baskets.
- 7 Weak.