

# Guided Reading Activity 18-1

## Interpersonal Attraction

For use with textbook pages 519-525

Directions: Filling in the Blanks Use your textbook to fill in the blanks using the words in the box.

- |                 |                   |              |
|-----------------|-------------------|--------------|
| complementarity | similar           | test         |
| ego-support     | social            | unattractive |
| experience      | Stanley Schachter | utility      |
| mediators       | stimulation       |              |
| proximity       | support           |              |

### Introduction

The psychologists who study why we select certain people as friends are called 1 social psychologists. They help us understand the reasons we like or do not like to be around certain other people.

Hellas are worth the pain of good-byes!

Who are your "true" friends?

### Why We Need Friends

Psychologist 2 Stanley Schachter discovered that we like to have others with us in high anxiety situations, for example. Another reason we like to have someone with us is to compare 3 experience and reduce 4 uncertainty.

"Misery loves company." (p. 520)

Friends give us 5 support, serve as 6 mediators if we have problems with another person, and give us opportunity to 7 test our ideas.

"Misery loves miserable company"

### How You Choose Friends

There are several factors in choosing friends. One of the most important is 8 proximity. Do we see him often? Even if he lives next door, a lasting friendship is not likely to develop unless the other person provides three values: 9 stimulation (is she interesting?), 10 utility (is he agreeable and helpful?), and 11 ego-support (does she give sympathy and encouragement?).

Long-distance relationships

Joey

A person's physical appearance greatly influences others' impressions of him or her. We also tend to choose friends who have 12 similar backgrounds, attitudes, and interests. A less common reason to choose a friend is 13 complementarity, which supposes that opposites can provide what the other person lacks.

Cause of divorce?

Metinda/J.T.

What is beautiful? → symmetry  
 → not a necessity for marriage  
 Boys - "Don't always chose the hot ones"  
 Girls - "K.S. guys only want one thing!"

Book: p. 526

What makes a friend?

Terry

Clayton