

prompt

- 1 At school, at work, and at play, we often have to work in teams or groups in order to achieve our goals. Think of some attributes that make a good team player, whether it be in a sport, at work, or at school when working in groups. **Then, write an essay to explain three or more characteristics that make a person a good team player.**

Qualities of a Good Team Player

Everyone is put in positions where team work is a necessity. Humans are social creatures so it is only natural for us to work together, whether it be on a school project or a sports team. The majority of people have worked in groups where one person really stands out for being such a good team player. Its important to look at the qualities that makes one such a good team player so that we can appreciate those who already are excelling as team players by being flexible, staying supporting, and by being motivated.

Everyone is put in positions where team work is a necessity. Humans are social creatures so it is only natural for us to work together, whether it be on a school project or a sports team. The majority of people have worked in groups where one person really stands out for being such a good team player. Its important to look at the qualities that makes one such a good team player so that we can appreciate those who already are excelling as team players by being flexible, staying supporting, and by being motivated.

One characteristic that good team players exhibit is flexibility in different situations and being able to adapt. Often times people get very caught up on doing things their own way. It is an impulse we all have but team players try to work past this. Good team players try to understand the views of others. They take the time to hear people out with an open mind. This is not always easy because good team players sometimes want to do things their own way, but even when this is the case they don't shut everyone else's ideas out. Instead they take the other persons ideas into account and try to come up with a happy medium. In order for a team to function properly everyone's ideas and abilities need to blend together to create a harmonious product. A good team player knows this so they put aside their own personal and sometimes selfish wants of getting only their idea out there. They put those wants to the side to make room for everybody so they can come together as a team to be successful as a whole.

Good team players also act as a support system to their fellow team members. While a team is never just about one person and their wants, it starts on an individual level. Each person needs to feel comfortable and supported in order for the whole team to be in a good state. A good team member actively works towards the goal of making sure everyone feels as such. A good team member checks in on everybody to make sure they feel okay with how everything is going. Then when someone is having trouble they offer to help making sure no one feels alone or lost. When everyone feels this kind of support the team will be closer which makes working together easier. Everyone will feel closer because the good team player helps everyone feel cared for. When everyone is closer and feels cared for it gives everyone more confidence to complete their own tasks to the true extent of their abilities which will give the team the optimum results.

Lastly, good team players have the quality of being very motivated to achieve their goals with the work. A good team player is motivated to get their share of the work done so it is fair for everyone. They never slack or leave an unfair amount for others to deal with. Not only do they complete their own work, but they do so with a positive attitude by staying highly motivated the whole time. This sets a good example for the rest of the team to follow by. Sometimes when there is someone who is highly unmotivated and not dedicated that negative energy travels. This causes others in the group to feel similarly. When a good team player exudes a motivational attitude that energy also travels. That in turn causes the other group members to feel more motivated. This positive energy will rub off on other group members causing everyone's spirits to lift. This helps by making it a more positive experience as a whole. Often our outlook on things can affect how good or bad a situation will feel. If a good team member can encourage a positive outlook by their motivation then the situation feel more uplifting for everybody.

The qualities that make up a good team player should never be overlooked, but often are. Good team players can make even a less than ideal situation a little bit better for everyone. People who make active efforts to ease the hardships of others deserve a great deal of respect. I ask you next time you work with a good team player to say “thank you”. Acknowledgment as seemingly simple as this can really make all the difference.
