

## **DETENTION LEARNING PACKET #2:** *BEING LATE TO CLASS*

### *WHAT TO DO*

This is a Detention Learning Packet. It consists of three pages of text and a Response sheet that asks questions about what you did, why you did it, and what goals you must set to avoid the same problem in the future. Read the three pages and try to remember what you read. Then read the Response Sheet and write answers to the questions.

### *WHAT YOU DID AND WHY IT WAS WRONG*

You were late to class. This is probably not the first time you have been late to class. When you are late to class, it interrupts the class, bothers the students and the teacher, and delays getting started on the day's work. When you are repeatedly late to class, people feel that you have no respect for their needs: to teach, if you're the teacher, or to learn, if you're a student in the class. You can't expect others to respect you when you don't show consideration for them. Being late to class hurts everybody.

### *THREE STORIES ABOUT BEING LATE TO CLASS*

#### **BUSY BART BARELY BEATS THE BELL**

Bart is sometimes late to class. Other times, he gets there at the last second. He likes to talk to people, and spends the few minutes between classes talking to people in the hallway. Today, Bart spoke to his teacher after class about why he was late last time, talked to Helen about roller skating next Saturday, and spoke to George about the camping trip they were going on next week. He made it to class on time, but only by running down the hall, jumping through the door and leaping to his seat.

## **THE PROBLEM OF PREOCCUPIED PETE**

Pete is an excellent student, but he usually has other things on his mind besides getting to class on time. He doesn't pay attention to the time, and sometimes goes to the library instead of class. Sometimes Pete is late to school, and he is often late to class. He is not aware that he is interrupting others when he comes in late. He is not really a bad person, but he is inconsiderate of others. Pete is so wrapped up in his own interests that he doesn't think about other people's feelings.

## **SLOW-MOVING GLORIA NEVER GETS GOING**

It always takes Gloria too long to go from one class to the next. She stops to get a drink of water, then she goes to the washroom, then she looks out the window, then she talks to friends, then she goes to her locker. Finally, she starts down the hallway to class about the time the bell rings. Sometimes she gets to class at the last minute, but she is often late. Gloria doesn't really care if she bothers others.

## ***WHY PEOPLE ARE LATE TO CLASS***

People are late for a variety of reasons. The reasons range from poor personal organization to a lack of interest in going to class. Bart is so busy with his activities, he hardly has time to get to class. Instead of taking care of conversations during lunch or after school, he tries to squeeze them in between classes. Bart tries to do too much, and winds up not doing his class work. He likes feeling important, but he doesn't like to settle down to learn.

Pete is a good student, smarter than most of his classmates. He learns easily. But most of the time he thinks of other things. As a result, he has problems meeting his obligations to his teachers and his fellow students. He is interested in the subjects he is studying, but he is not concerned with the right others have not to be interrupted.

Gloria dreads going to class because she has a problem with reading. She has never learned to read well, and feels that it is too late to learn now. This

makes her feel uncomfortable in school, and she wants to be somewhere else. She is interested in some of the subjects, but has trouble staying interested because the reading is sometimes difficult. If she doesn't learn to read well now, she may never be a better reader. Being late to class only makes the problem worse. Unfortunately, Gloria doesn't seem to realize this.

### ***WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU ARE LATE TO CLASS***

When you are late to class, several things happen:

- You interrupt the class when you arrive.
- You are late getting started on your own work.
- You miss important information. (This makes it hard to understand what you are supposed to be doing).
- You miss opportunities to work with fellow students.
- You are always trying to catch up with what you've missed.

While being late occasionally is unavoidable, being repeatedly late to class hurts you in three ways: (1) you are always running behind the others, (2) you get a reputation for being undependable, and (3) you establish a habit of not meeting your obligations to others. All of these hurt you now and after you graduate. Think about what could happen if you were late to a job on a regular basis.

### ***WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO IN THE FUTURE***

Try to discover why you are late. Identify the reasons. Then think about ways to eliminate them. Work out a schedule that will keep you from being repeatedly late to class. Budget your time better. Find out what's wrong, and set some goals to correct the situation. The questions in the Response sheets will help you to set these goals.

# STUDENT RESPONSE PACKET # 2.1

## *BEING LATE TO CLASS*

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

GRADE \_\_ HOMEROOM \_\_\_\_\_

### *WHAT TO DO*

Below are some questions about what you have read. These questions will help you learn why what you did was wrong and how you can avoid such problems in the future. Your teacher, a counselor, the principal, or your parents may read your answers. Your answers will not be graded.

Write your answers in the spaces below the questions. If there is not enough room, write on the backs of these sheets. Be neat, spell correctly, use good grammar, and write in complete sentences. If you don't understand what you are supposed to do, ask your detention supervisor.

When you finish, give the Learning Packet and your Response sheets to the detention supervisor and return to your desk. The supervisor will tell you when to leave.

1. Explain why it is important to be on time to class.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. How many times have you been late to class this month? If you're not sure, give an estimate. Then tell what seems to be the biggest reason for being late.

3. Why were you late to class today? Also explain how this tardiness could have been avoided.
  
4. What can happen if a person gets in the habit of being late to class? Will grades be affected? Will people think you're reliable?
  
5. You've read about three people who are late to class. Why was Bart late to class?
  
6. Why was Pete late to class?
  
7. Why was Gloria late to class?
  
8. Set two goals that will help you get to class on time.



# STUDENT RESPONSE PACKET # 2.2

## *BEING LATE TO CLASS*

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

GRADE \_\_ HOMEROOM \_\_\_\_\_

### *WHAT TO DO*

Below are some questions about what you have read. These questions will help you learn why what you did was wrong and how you can avoid such problems in the future. Your teacher, a counselor, the principal, or your parents may read your answers. Your answers will not be graded.

Write your answers in the spaces below the questions. If there is not enough room, write on the backs of these sheets. Be neat, spell correctly, use good grammar, and write in complete sentences. If you don't understand what you are supposed to do, ask your detention supervisor.

When you finish, give the Learning Packet and your Response sheets to the detention supervisor and return to your desk. The supervisor will tell you when to leave.

1. You are late to class again. In which class were you late? How many minutes late were you?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. This is not the first time you have been late to class. How many times have you been late this semester? If you're not sure, please make an estimate.

3. What is your reason for being late this time? Is this a reason or an excuse?
  
4. Is this reason the same as before? What can you do so that this does not happen to you?
  
5. You've read three stories about people who were late to class. Write two goals for Bart that will help him get to class on time.
  
6. Write two goals for Pete that will help him be on time.
  
7. Write two goals for Gloria that will help her be on time.
  
8. Write two goals that will help you be in your classroom on time. Keep in mind the reasons you didn't achieve your goals last time.