

3. These are all important points, however / on the other hand ...
It is true that ... Nevertheless, ...
That is a good point but ...

5a. Prepare for the debate. Draw out the cards with the words ‘For’ and “Against” to find out what point of view you will have to defend during the debate in the next lesson.

5b. At home prepare for the debate:

- think of your arguments,
- write them down,
- try to predict the opposite team’s arguments and how to contradict them.

6. Hold the debate about cheating.

A. Follow the debate rules.

- Don’t interrupt others.
- Don’t offend others.
- Raise your hand if it’s not your time of speaking.
- Don’t whisper while another speaker is talking.

B. Start the debate.

Tips:

- Don’t forget to use linking words and phrases from the previous lesson.
- The results of the debate will depend on both your convincing arguments and following the rules.
- If you break the rule, your team gets a red card.

7. Has the debate influenced your own opinion on the topic? Has your opinion changed?

Lesson 8. A true school story

1a.  Read Part I of the story. Who are the following people?

Charles Pryor

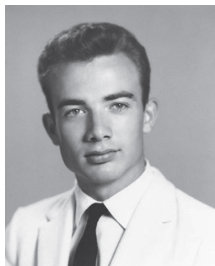
A.J. Fielder

Happy Jack

Jimmy and Johnny Farrar

Part I

When I was a Senior¹ at E.C. Glass High School in Lynchburg, Virginia during the 1961–62 school year, we had a nasty teacher named A.J. Fielder, better known as “Happy Jack”. Happy Jack Fielder taught hard courses in Chemistry and Physics. He gave low grades (marks) to his students. Many students needed high grades to get into the college of their choices.



I was one of those who decided to take the risk of taking Happy Jack’s classes. Happy Jack gave very hard tests. Almost all of us got no better than 50 or 60 out of 100 on these tests. In other words, we were failing. If we failed, we would not be able to go to college at all.

However, there was one kid in the class who always got 100 on every physics test. His name was Charles Pryor. He was not regarded (не считался) as one of the smartest (cleverest) kids in the school. Actually, I was regarded as the smartest kid in the school, although I knew that in reality I was not.

I had close friends named Jimmy and Johnny Farrar, who were identical twins. They were also among the smartest kids in the school and were taking the same physics class from Happy Jack. I went over to their house many times to discuss our low grades in Physics.

We knew that something had to be done about this. We were desperate². By getting 100 on every test while the rest of us were getting not more than 60, Charles Pryor was placing us all in a difficult situation. We were all studying hard. We did not think that he was very smart, so it could not have been that he knew the material better than we did.

a place (*n*) – место to place (*v*) – ?

We finally understood how he did it.

There were three physics classes, taught in periods (lessons) 4, 5 and 6. Charles Pryor was in the sixth period. Happy Jack

¹ **senior** ['si:niə] – старшеклассник

² **desperate** ['despəɪət] – в отчаянии

gave the same tests to all three periods. Therefore, during period 5 Charles Pryor could meet with a student from period 4 who had just taken the test, find out what the questions were and look up the answers before period 6. We became convinced (убеждены) that this was what Charles Pryor was doing. He was a cheat.

Now, what to do about this?

1b. Explain

- 1) why senior students needed high grades;
- 2) why students tried to avoid Happy Jack's classes;
- 3) why the three friends were desperate;
- 4) why they thought that Charles Pryor was cheating;
- 5) how Charles Pryor was cheating.

2a. What do you think the boys did?

2b. Read Part II and check your guesses.

Part II

*F*inally, we decided to write an anonymous letter to A.J. Fielder explaining what Charles Pryor was doing. However, we did not want to say that it was Charles Pryor who was doing it. We just said that some student was doing this. In order to make sure that nobody would ever know who had written the letter, we put on gloves and bought a new pad of paper, so that our fingerprints (отпечатки пальцев) would not appear on the paper. We went through newspapers and found the words we wanted to write, cut them out with scissors and pasted them with glue. We got a new envelope and put the letter in the envelope. Then, we mailed the letter to Happy Jack.



paper



glue



envelope



scissors

A few days later, Happy Jack made an announcement (объявление) to all the physics classes. He read the letter in class. He wanted to know immediately who had written the letter and who the cheating student was. I kept silent and did not raise my hand and neither did Jimmy or Johnny Farrar.

A few days later, Happy Jack Fielder gave us another test. However, he did not give the same test to all three classes. Instead, he gave an easy test to the students in period four. Everybody in that class got 100 on that test. Then, he gave an extremely difficult test to the students in periods 5 and 6. His message was clear: "If you do not say the name of the cheating student, all of you will fail. You will not be able to go to college and your futures will be ruined."

I went over to Jimmy and Johnny Farrar's house again. Now, we were really worried. We decided that we had no choice. We wrote another letter. The second letter contained only one sentence: "The person referred to in the previous letter is Charles Pryor." A few days later, I was walking down the high school corridor past the classroom door and saw A.J. Fielder with my letter in his hand, having a heart-to-heart talk with Charles Pryor. I do not know what happened next and heard nothing more about this. We all passed our exams and went to college.

For 40 long years since 1961 I have been keeping this secret. In all these years, until today, I have never told anyone about this letter.

Today, after 40 years, I decided to look up Charles Pryor on the Internet, and here is what I found:

Charles W. Pryor has a Ph.D. degree¹ in Physics and is the CEO and Chairman of the Board² of Westinghouse Electric Corporation, whose technologies are used in nuclear power plants (ядерные электростанции) all over the world. Charles W. Pryor won the Academy of Distinguished Alumni Award³ for 1998.

¹ **PhD degree** – степень кандидата наук

² **CEO and Chairman of the Board** – исполнительный директор и председатель правления

³ **Academy of Distinguished Alumni Award** – награда Академии выдающихся выпускников



We must now realize that he was not cheating after all.
He was simply better at physics than we were.

This is a true story.

After Sam Sloan

2c. Explain why

- 1) they decided to write a letter;
- 2) they put on gloves and bought a new pad of paper;
- 3) all the students in period 4 got 100 on the test;
- 4) the three friends decide to write another letter;
- 5) Happy Jack had a heart-to-heart talk with Charles Pryor;
- 6) Charles Pryor always got 100 on Physics tests.

3. Discuss in groups.

- What do you think about the boys' idea to write a letter to the teacher?
- Should students inform teachers about their classmates' cheating?
- Do you think teachers should give different tests for different classes? Why? / Why not?

4. Write a short play based on the story.

A. Include the conversations between:

- 1) Sam Sloan and the twins, 2) Mr Fielder and the class,
- 3) Happy Jack and Charles Pryor.

B. Choose a role and read the play.

C. Act out the play.