

## Written Assignment for “Honesty is the Best Policy”

**Questions** (to inspire you but not to be used “word for word” in your essays):

1. Are there times when it is better not to tell the truth? Are there any limits to “honesty”?
2. Should students, doctors, lawyers, engineers, athletes, bankers, etc. be punished for cheating?
3. To what extent can we trust the media when they are privately owned or even when they are public services?
4. Do certain TV ads give a dishonest picture of the product being promoted? Give examples.
5. Should a government always inform its citizens of the truth, the whole truth—even concerning military/terrorist actions? (An example is the explosion in Chernobyl in 1986 and the “radioactive cloud” which was said to “have stopped at frontiers” of the some countries.)
6. How “honest” are political campaigns? Would an “honest” politician be able to be elected?
7. Should athletes be severely punished for using performance-enhancing drugs?
8. Should people who have STD's (Sexually Transmittable Diseases, i.e., AIDS, Chlamydia, Herpes, etc.) inform their partners, their employers, their friends and colleagues?
9. In times of war should the media be allowed to show whatever they wish—even dishonest propaganda—in the name of national defense?
10. Can honesty be “taught” by parents or by teachers at school?
11. Should the media be allowed to freely reveal “top secret” information as in the case of WikiLeaks and its founder Julian Assange or should such disclosure be considered a crime?
12. Should bankers who take huge risks to increase their own fortune and cause clients severe poverty and loss of property be sentenced to prison terms?
13. Are we more or less honest today than in the past?
14. Who is the most honest person you have ever met or heard of?

### Abstract words you may wish to use.

Most of them are generally written **without** the articles “a/an/the” except those with an asterisk (\*). The **stressed syllable** has been **underlined** for you. *Work on pronunciation!*

<b>Ending in “y”:</b>	<u>h</u> onesty	dis <u>h</u> onesty	<u>d</u> ecency	<u>p</u> rivacy	hyp <u>o</u> crisy
<b>Ending in “ity”:</b>	gen <u>e</u> rosity,	int <u>e</u> grity	auth <u>o</u> rity	sen <u>s</u> itivity	<u>cl</u> arity
<b>Ending in “ility”:</b>	plaus <u>i</u> bility	vulner <u>a</u> bility	feas <u>i</u> bility	gull <u>i</u> bility	prob <u>a</u> bility*
<b>Ending in “ship”:</b>	<u>f</u> riendship*	lead <u>e</u> rship	own <u>e</u> rship	dict <u>a</u> torship	<u>co</u> mradeship
<b>Ending in “ness”:</b>	<u>f</u> airness	ruth <u>e</u> ssness	gr <u>e</u> atness	<u>h</u> appiness	sel <u>f</u> ishness
<b>Ending in “hood”:</b>	<u>l</u> ikelihood	= <i>probability</i>	<u>b</u> rotherhood	= <i>fraternity</i>	

**Also we would like you to avoid:** “good”, “bad”, “OK”, “cool”, “according to me” (“according to someone else” is correct), “actually” when you mean “today”, and “society” when you mean “firm”. Remember we say “our society”, and not “the society”.

**BE CAREFUL!** When you speak of the world of “the birds and the bees”, trees, plants and animals, we say “Nature”—with a capital letter and without “the”—or “Mother Nature”—also with capital letters and without the article “the”. When we speak of the “place” where we go on walks or play sports, we just say “outdoors” or “outside”. When we speak of the natural world or milieu we are destroying, we use the term “the environment”.