Make a Good Impression

Pre-reading

Questions:

- What do you think it means to “make a good impression”?

Definitions:

- Impression – a belief or idea about what someone or something is like
- Appearance – the way a person or thing looks
- Pride – a sense of personal value or worth

Reading

Think about what it is like when you meet someone new. After a short time, you can determine if this person is someone you would like to know better. You can quickly sense if he is someone that would fit in with you and your friends. If he doesn’t fit in, you probably will not spend more time with him.

Managers have these abilities too. Managers see many job applicants. Their first impressions are formed by what they see and sense in you. If they don’t like what they see, they probably will not hire you, no matter what your skills are.

Your appearance is one of the basic things that form an impression. It makes a statement. If you look neat and clean, the impression is that you take pride in yourself and your work. If you look dirty and unkempt, the impression is that you may be a sloppy worker.

What should you wear? Dress in the clothes you would wear on the job. Business people should wear suits. Workers should wear work clothes. Make sure your clothes are clean and pressed. Your shoes should be clean and shined.

When interviewing for a job, you want to look good and smell good. Do not put on strong perfumes or colognes. Avoid alcohol, cigarette, and onion or garlic breath. Your body and breath should be clean and fresh!
Understanding

1. How can you create a good impression? ________________________________________________________________

2. Why is it important to make a good first impression? ________________________________________________________________

3. What does the word avoid mean in this reading? ________________________________________________________________

4. What things could stop you from making a good impression? ________________________________________________________________

5. Besides at a job interview, where else might it be important to make a good first impression? ________________________________________________________________

Writing

Choice A: In your own words, write about what it means to make a good impression.

Choice B: Do you agree that it is important to make a good first impression? Why or why not?

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