



RESPONSIBLE DECISION-MAKING ACTIVITIES

Activity 9.4

Decision-Making Scenarios

Objectives:

- Practice the decision-making process through relevant scenarios using the possible outcomes or SODAS (situation, options, disadvantages, advantages, solution) methods.

Materials:

- Handout: Decision-Making Scenarios

Steps:

1. Distribute the Decision-Making Scenarios Handout.
2. Discuss in small groups.
3. Have participants go through the decision-making process for the appointed scenarios.
4. Debrief together with the entire group and discuss:
 - a. How can we use this with our students?



RESPONSIBLE DECISION-MAKING ACTIVITIES

Handout 9.4

Decision-Making Scenarios

Scenario 1

The Rias family moved to Kansas two months before the pandemic to work on a local farm. During this year, the Rias family's children are participating in remote learning. The children, ages 10 to 20, have been home learning for four months. Due to lack of internet connectivity, the older children have decided to leave high school to search for jobs to assist with household expenses. Miguel and Maria, who are sophomores, have been told that they cannot leave the area around the home. Mrs. Rias has noticed that Miguel is beginning to withdraw from the rest of the family. He prefers to be alone and rarely talks or plays with his siblings. Furthermore, Mrs. Rias wanted her older children to continue their education, but the additional income is needed. Mrs. Rias is beginning to become overwhelmed.

Scenario 2

Sandra recently arrived in Kansas from Mexico and is having a hard time adjusting to a language and making friends at school. Her English skills are limited, she feels lonely, and keeps wondering if her family made the right choice of leaving their home country for America.

Scenario 3

Phillipa, who is 19, has received a positive diagnosis of Covid and flu. Her two-year-old child has been diagnosed with Covid as well and she has not been attending classes at all for several weeks. Phillipa thinks her options are very limited and her physical condition is getting worse. What resources would you recommend?

Scenario 4

Tomas, age 17, arrived in Kansas in December. His parents tried to enroll him in school, but the school refused to enroll him due to confusion about his credits. The district stated he would not be able to graduate. Feeling lost and confused, Tomas finds friends who are willing to share their recreational drugs with him. His parents find him passed out in their bathroom. How would you get Tomas and his family to make good decisions about next steps?

Scenario 5

You work hard in school, get good grades, and want to go to college when you graduate. You also have an after-school job and the money you earn contributes to your family's overall income as they rely on your help. You recently missed several days of school and work because you were sick. Now that you have returned to school, you are feeling lost in math class. The teacher offered to stay after school and help you catch up as it is the only time she is available. However, you are scheduled to work every day after school. What do you do?

Scenario 6

Describe a real situation that you have experienced or know about that requires a decision.



RESPONSIBLE DECISION-MAKING ACTIVITIES

Handout 9.4

Decision-Making Scenarios

Weigh the possible options of the above scenario(s) selected:

Options	Positive Outcome	Negative Outcome
1.		
2.		
3.		

Are there any questions you still might have? What makes this decision difficult?



RESPONSIBLE DECISION-MAKING ACTIVITIES

Let's try it another way.

Here is an easy-to-use and remember method for deciding on the best solution – **SODAS** (stands for Situation, Disadvantages, Advantages and Solution):

Situation: _____

Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
Disadvantages: 1. 2. 3.	Disadvantages: 1. 2. 3.	Disadvantages: 1. 2. 3.
Advantages: 1. 2. 3.	Advantages: 1. 2. 3.	Advantages: 1. 2. 3.

Solution: _____



RESPONSIBLE DECISION-MAKING ACTIVITIES

Let's try it another way.

Here is another easy-to-use and remember method for deciding on the best solution – **ICED**
(stands for Identify, Create, Evaluate and Decide):

Identify the problem: _____

Create alternatives:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Evaluate alternatives:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Decide on the best solution: _____

