Honesty

Honesty means being truthful in what you say and do. Read each scenario below. Is the person being honest or dishonest? Write your answer on the line.

_______________ 1. Mandy forgot to do her homework. She is already getting straight As in the class and since she knows all of the material anyway, she thinks it will be okay if she copies Kim’s homework. No harm done, right?

_______________ 2. Your mother sends you to the store for a few small items. She gives you a twenty-dollar-bill and asks you to bring her the change. You keep a few dollars of the change for yourself, and give her the rest of it.

_______________ 3. You hurt your knee over the weekend. You don’t have any health insurance and can’t afford to go to the doctor. The next day you accidentally slip and fall in the hallway at work and claim to have hurt your knee so that your medical bills will be paid by workman’s comp. Since you really did slip and hurt yourself at work, this is okay, right?

_______________ 4. You are scheduled to work an 8 hour shift. You show up half an hour late, and leave fifteen minutes early. Before you leave, you enter 8 hours on your time card. You feel this is justified since there was no business to attend to during that time anyway.

_______________ 5. A friend asks you how you are doing a few days after your dog dies. You are still very depressed, but you have been talking to this friend about your loss for a few days now, and don’t want to trouble her anymore. You tell her you are doing okay.

_______________ 6. Your mother asks you if you ate the last cookie. You tell her no, which is the truth; your brother ate the last cookie in the jar; you only ate the other eleven.

7. Are there other components to honesty besides simply not telling a lie? What are they?

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