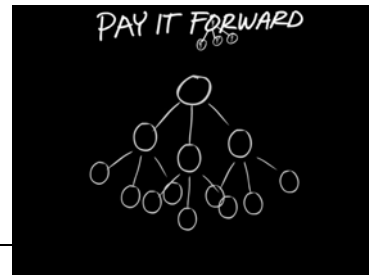


Pay It Forward

Questions for the Movie



1. The reporter's car accident is chronologically towards the end of the movie. Then it jumps to four months previous with Trevor's story while the reporter investigates the story with a series of flashbacks that work backwards in time. Confused? Watch carefully.
2. How do you feel about metal detectors at the entrance to schools? What do you think schools should be doing to ensure they are secure?
3. Mr. Simonet is definitely trying to "set the tone" on the first day of school. Is this a good thing for teachers to do? How would you handle things if you were a new teacher?
4. "What does the world mean to you?" Are you news watchers? "global thinkers"? What does the world expect of a student?
5. "What happens if, when you're finally free, you don't like the world you live in?" Think of an idea to change our world, and put it into ACTION.
6. During his bike ride, what is Trevor looking for?
7. What is Mr. Simonet referring to when he says that he will be hard to fire? "filling a quota" "parking one space this side of the blue zone"
8. How should teachers handle their dealings with parents? Pre-emptive talks, phone calls,
9. Is there anything wrong with a teacher challenging his or students? Explain.
10. "What is this, an attack of total altruism?" And until this unit in politics, I'll be most of you weren't even aware of the word!
11. "I'm late for my mass wedding." This sarcastic statement is supposed to suggest what?
12. Trevor has given the homeless man, Jerry, a leg up by doing very little things. BUT what do those "little things" mean to Jerry?
13. Explain the idea of "pay it forward".
14. Do you know of examples of teachers being "teachery"? Is that a good or a bad thing?
15. Trevor feels that he has failed in helping Jerry so he moves on to _____ . What is Trevor's set-up? Does it work?

16. To what extent should teachers reach to connect with parents and especially the students' lives outside of school? (e.g. home visits) Good or bad thing?
17. "You had a sleepover, didn't you!" Funny.
18. Trevor thought he had failed with Jerry, but along comes this lady on a bridge..... Explain.
19. Trevor feels that everyone gives up too easily.
20. What inspires us to do good?
21. How are some people recognized for their efforts?
22. Could "pay it forward" work?
23. What else could we do?!?!