# Learning New Roles

Trace who teaches social expectations across life stages.

**SS24.S.5b** "Differentiate among primary, secondary, and adult socialization and identify the key influences of socialization for each stage."

NAME _____ DATE _____

## 1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

**YOUR JOB** Underline one influence on Mira during primary socialization, circle two influences during secondary socialization, and number two influences during adult socialization. Use your marks to track how the sources of social learning change.

### Mira Learns the Rules

1. At six, Mira learned to wait while her grandmother finished speaking at dinner. Her parents showed her how to greet visitors and share food with younger cousins. No one handed her a rulebook; daily routines, praise, and correction made these habits feel normal. This is primary socialization, the earliest learning of a group's basic expectations, usually through caregivers and family members. It shapes how children communicate, handle emotions, and treat others before they enter many settings beyond home. Other households may teach different greetings or mealtime habits, so Mira's early lessons were not universal rules.

2. In ninth grade, Mira joined the school newspaper. Her editor, a classmate, insisted that reporters check a quote before publishing it. A teacher expected her to meet deadlines, while friends debated which opinions were acceptable to print. Mira learned to question a claim even when a friend shared it. This is secondary socialization: learning expectations in groups and institutions outside the home, such as schools, peer groups, and clubs. Family influence did not disappear, but these new settings offered rules and feedback that sometimes differed from what Mira had learned at home.

3. At twenty-seven, Mira began working at a neighborhood health clinic. A supervisor taught her to protect patient information, and experienced coworkers showed her how to speak calmly when the waiting room was crowded. Written workplace policies reinforced those lessons. This is adult socialization: learning the expectations of new roles after childhood and adolescence, often through employers, coworkers, partners, or community groups. Mira already knew how to greet people and check facts, but neither childhood dinners nor the school newspaper had prepared her for every clinic rule. Her new role required adjustments to habits she had built earlier.

## 2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Compare Mira's primary and adult socialization. Name one influence and one expectation she learned at each stage.

2. Why is Mira's newspaper experience secondary rather than primary socialization? Identify who shaped her behavior.

3. The newspaper and clinic both had rules. How did the sources and purpose of Mira's learning change when she entered the clinic?

4. How does the passage show that adult socialization builds on earlier learning rather than replacing it?

## 3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Invent a person and describe three moments in their life, one from primary, one from secondary, and one from adult socialization. For each moment, name an influence and a specific expectation the person learns; use settings and expectations not found in Mira's story.

ANSWER KEY

# Learning New Roles

HIGH SCHOOL · SS24.S.5b

## PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one influence on Mira during primary socialization, circle two influences during secondary socialization, and number two influences during adult socialization. Use your marks to track how the sources of social learning change. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

## PART 2 · ANSWERS

| # | QUESTION | ANSWER |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Compare Mira's primary and adult socialization. Name one influence and one expectation she learned at each stage. | **At home, her parents taught her to greet visitors. At the clinic, her supervisor taught her to protect patient information.** |
| 2 | Why is Mira's newspaper experience secondary rather than primary socialization? Identify who shaped her behavior. | **She learned expectations in a school group outside her home. Her classmate editor, teacher, and friends influenced her.** |
| 3 | The newspaper and clinic both had rules. How did the sources and purpose of Mira's learning change when she entered the clinic? | **At the newspaper, classmates and a teacher taught her how to work as a student reporter. At the clinic, a supervisor, coworkers, and workplace policies taught her how to meet the demands of an adult job.** |
| 4 | How does the passage show that adult socialization builds on earlier learning rather than replacing it? | **Mira still knew how to greet people and check facts, but she also had to learn new clinic expectations, such as protecting patient information.** |

## PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

As a young child, Inez learned from her uncle to remove muddy boots before entering the house, an example of primary socialization. In middle school, her soccer teammates taught her to pass the ball rather than keep it, an example of secondary socialization. As an adult joining a neighborhood emergency response team, Inez learned from a team leader to report hazards over a radio, an example of adult socialization.

Accept other accurate influences and expectations from the passage. For the open task, look for three distinct life stages, with an appropriate influence and a specific learned expectation at each stage.