



Roleplay Scenarios

SOFT SKILLS: Self-Confidence

Partner up. Then, for each scenario below, one person will play the role of a student or employee exercising the soft skill, **Self-Confidence**, and the other will play the role of a peer or supervisor. Make sure each response is something you, personally, would be comfortable saying in the scenario. Based on your response, your partner will follow up with dialogue.

Part I: During High School

1. Your teacher assigns groups of 4 to work on a social studies project worth 35% of your grade. She says each group needs a team leader, a recorder, a timekeeper, and a presenter. You've actually got a great, creative idea for the project, but you don't know any of your assigned group members well at all, and one of the four is well-known as the smartest girl in class, who typically takes on the role of leader. What do you do to become your team's leader?
2. Your chemistry teacher is really old and is missing large stretches of time due to illness. Sometimes there is a qualified science substitute, and other times there is coverage by a random teacher who has the period free: Either way, your class is just doing a bunch of "busy work" worksheets without learning anything new, and no one's even grading the worksheets. You're planning on majoring in chemical engineering in college and are worried this lack of chemistry knowledge is going to cause a problem. You want to talk to your principal about the issue. How do you approach the principal and what do you say?

Part II: On the Job

3. A coworker you need to collaborate with each day has a horrible habit of interrupting when other people talk. Sometimes it's excitement from brainstorming, sometimes it's to crack annoying jokes, and sometimes it's just his thinking his opinions and thoughts matter more. How do you ensure your voice gets heard?
4. The community center where you work is hosting a Neighborhood Field Day. Someone needs to design a promotional flier, and while it's not your area of expertise, you are a pretty good amateur artist and did stage design regularly in high school, so you think the skills might translate. How do you speak up without overpromising on your flier-making skills?
5. It's been about 8 weeks since you started your new job at a nonprofit organization, and a friendly colleague has made a habit of asking how things are going, what you've been working on, etc. At a group brainstorm session, this same coworker presents one of the concepts you discussed with her last week, and she gives you no credit for the idea. Your boss loves the idea and tells your coworker to spearhead the effort. How do you handle this situation?
6. You were hired as a junior management consultant at a large agency fresh out of college. You've been at the job for 11 months, and you really feel as though they're underutilizing your skills. The tasks assigned to you are pretty easy, and you are skating by without much effort instead of engaging with challenging tasks. How do you address this concern at your first annual review?

Questions for Reflection or Discussion:

- Why is **Self-Confidence** an important soft skill at school or work?
- What could you do to build your strength in this particular skill?
- If one person is not particularly good at this skill, how can that impact an entire team?