

Advocate Personality Quiz: What type of advocate are you?

Please circle the answer that best describes you. If more than one answer applies to you, choose the one that is most applicable to you.

1. My first contact each year with my child's teacher occurs:
 - a. At the beginning just to say hi and give the teacher some helpful info about my child
 - b. When my child gets a bad grade or when the teacher calls me about a behavior issue
 - c. During the first parent-teacher conference night

2. I feel that my child's teacher:
 - a. Wants to help my child but doesn't know how
 - b. Only teaches to one type of student, and my child is not that type
 - c. Tries numerous individualized strategies to help my child learn

3. So far this school year I have met/spoken/emailed with my child's teacher:
 - a. 0-3 times
 - b. 4-6 times
 - c. More than 7 times

4. When I meet with or speak to my child's teacher, the overall tone of the conversation is:
 - a. Positive
 - b. Mixed
 - c. Negative

5. At the end of a typical conversation with my child's teacher, I feel:
 - a. Satisfied
 - b. Frustrated/angry
 - c. Confused

6. When something unusual happens in my child's life (i.e. sleep problems, divorce, family illness, etc.), I:
 - a. Tell the teacher only if I see my child's grades start to slip or learn about behavior problems
 - b. Don't tell the teacher because it's not his business
 - c. Let the teacher know right away

7. I know _____ about my child's disability and how she learns best.
 - a. A lot
 - b. A little
 - c. Nothing

8. The teacher knows my child's interests:
 - a. Not at all
 - b. Somewhat but doesn't integrate them into teaching
 - c. Very well and incorporates them into teaching

9. At the end of my last parent-teacher conference, I wanted to:
 - a. Send the teacher back to school because he just doesn't understand how to teach my child
 - b. Hug the teacher because we work so well together
 - c. Do something to the teacher that would be very bad and might land me in jail

10. During stressful conversations with people, I tend to:
 - a. Take a breath or two to calm down before reacting and responding
 - b. Impulsively react by raising my voice and/or acting aggressively
 - c. Start off trying to be calm but end up yelling or saying something inappropriate

Now it's time to score your quiz. Please give yourself points for each answer as described below:

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 1. a)3, b)1, c)2 | 6. a)2, b)1, c)3 |
| 2. a)2, b)1, c)3 | 7. a)3, b)2, c)1 |
| 3. a)1, b)2, c)3 | 8. a)1, b)2, c)3 |
| 4. a)3, b)2, c)1 | 9. a)2, b)3, c)1 |
| 5. a)3, b)1, c)2 | 10. a)3, b)1, c)2 |

Once you've assigned points for each answer, please total your score and read below to learn about your advocate personality:

24-30: You are an effective advocate for your child! Have you sat in this session before? (Just kidding!) Everything you're doing for your child's educational success is right on target. Keep educating yourself on helpful collaborative and educational strategies so your child has the greatest chance of success.

17-23: You're on the right track, but your advocacy style could use a little tweaking so that your child can get the most out of his educational experience. You're already 3 steps ahead of the game just for being here today. You're going to learn so many tips, it won't be long before other parents start asking you for help!

10-16: Your heart is in the right place...otherwise, why else would you be here? Unfortunately, your approach to supporting your child's education is not the most effective and does not give your child the strongest chance for success. (Don't worry, some of the best educational advocates out there began in the exact same place as you! Ahem, ahem...) It's time to try a new method, and today you will learn many new strategies to help you do so. Welcome!