

2004 North Carolina Writing Grade 10

Read the following quotations about integrity, which is the firm adherence to a code of special moral or artistic values.

Speak with integrity. Say only what you mean. Avoid using the word to speak against yourself or to gossip about others. Use the power of your word in the direction of truth and love.

Don Miguel Ruiz, The Four Agreements

So live that you wouldn't be ashamed to sell the family parrot to the town gossip.

Will Rogers

Having integrity...means being completely true to what is inside you—to what you know is right...what you feel you must do, regardless of the immediate cost of sacrifice...to be honorable and to behave decently.

Samuel Golden, 1960

Integrity without knowing is weak and useless, and knowledge without integrity is dangerous and dreadful.

Samuel Johnson, Rasselas, 1759

Write a speech for your high school graduating class on the **meaning** of integrity. You may use the ideas presented above, your own experiences, observations, and/or readings.

As you write your speech, remember to:

- Focus on the meaning of integrity.
- Consider the audience, purpose, and context of your speech.
- Organize the ideas and details effectively.
- Include specific examples that clearly develop your speech.
- Edit your speech for standard grammar, spelling, and punctuation.

Use the blank sheet of paper given to you by your teacher to plan your speech. Anything you write on the blank sheet will not be scored. You must write the final copy of your speech in the test booklet.