
Are we really friends?

By: Jenna Hansen

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“I will be on your right and on your left, and always be around you. When you need help i’ll be the one standing right in front of you raising my hand. And when it seems like the whole world is going to fall apart, i’ll hold it up above your head. And when you feel ready to collapse in a heap of defeat, I will pick you up, wipe away your tears, and walk with you the rest of the way, even till the end of the earth.”

-Jenna Hansen

A friend is many things. It is defined as a person in your contacts list, or someone you're associated with. Or it is someone you have a bond with, that can really help you.

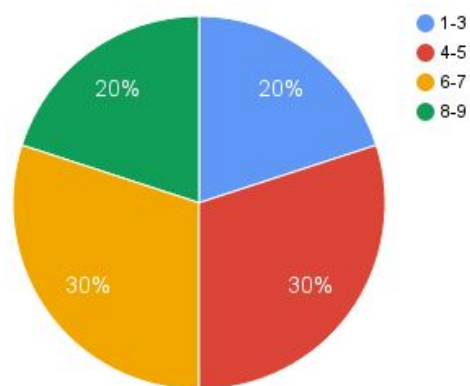
While these definitions are correct they are a cold hard definition of what a friend really is. To me a true friend is someone who walks in when the rest of the world walks out. True friends stays together, care for each other and is always there when you need them the most. We all ask “how do I know if they are really my true friend” or will I ever have a true friend?” Friendship is so very important. The philosopher Aristotle said, “In poverty and other misfortunes of life, true friends are a sure refuge. They keep the young out of mischief; they comfort and aid the old in their weakness, and they incite those in the prime of life to noble deeds.” A friend can keep you alive a true friend is that person you can’t live without.

When we had are Spanish exchange students at school they taught me a lot not just spanish but the power of friendship. As soon as they got here they bonded with everyone learned their names and had conversations with even when it was hard for them, because

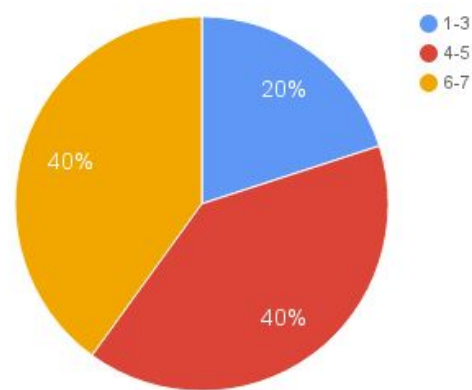
they didn't understand much english. They trusted each other from the beginning and would always give you a second chance. That gave me a new perspective of life. It's not about being right when it comes to arguments and fights, but it is learning to forgive. If you can't forgive then your life would be very difficult.

Friendship can change overnight for good and bad, sometimes we gain friends and we lose friends. I took some data to see with different age groups how many people had real best friends and how many they had. I went and I surveyed 3 different age groups that were all similar an elementary level of a 8 to 10, a middle school level of ages 11 to 13, and a high school group of the age 14 to 16. The goal was to find out how many best friends people had, and did it differ by the age group they were in of elementary, middle, or high school. I was surprised to see that the most friends were in the ages group of 8 to 10. I believe that this is because when you get older you are starting to look at your future and you are deciding who you want as your friends, who do you want to be associated with. When you get to High school you are also getting to an age where you start to realize who you really are, and who you friends really are.

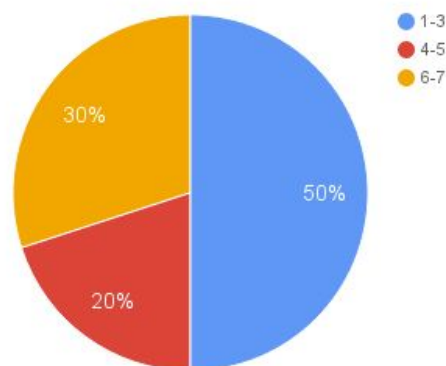
How many Best Friends do you have? (8-10) (10 Total)



How many Best Friends do you have? (11-13) (10 Total)



How many Best Friends do you have? (14-16) (10 total)



In the New Era Magazine it says that A true or best friend is someone that you can trust it says, “I will be on your right hand, and one your left,...and mine angels round about you, to bear you up.” It talks about how your friend is going to be there on you right, on your left, and all around you and they will help you, when you happy the will be happy with you, and when you're sad they will help make you happy, or just hug you, whatever you need if they are truly your friend they will be there to help you. My definition of a friend would be, someone who is loyal, loving, and caring. A friend is someone who learns to forgive.

Friends is spelt

F fight for you.

R respect you.

I include you.

E Encourage you.

N need you.

D deserve you,

and S stand up for you.

S is so important because it you want your friends to stand up for you. “A friend understands, and believes you” (Aspyn). “I don’t know what I would do without my best friend, she is always there for me, to inspire me, keep me out of trouble, and just there to listen” (Savanna). “I will do whatever I can to make sure that my friends are safe, because there always there for me” (Jenna). No matter what always remember you have a real, and true best friend that you can trust, even if you haven't met them you will meet them some day. Friendship is the hardest thing in the world to explain, but it is also the most beautiful thing in the world to. Always remember who your friends are, because they will always be there for you.

“To be worthy does not mean to be perfect.” ~Gerrit W. Gong.



“A best friend is someone you can be yourself with”