Truth and Lies

Read the following quotes and write an A by each statement you agree with and a D by each statement that you disagree with.

A little sincerity is a dangerous thing, and a great deal of it is absolutely fatal.

Typically, the best way to hurt a romantic partner is by being completely honest - tell a spouse something that he or she does not want to hear.

Always tell the truth. That way, you don't have to remember what you said.

People who are brutally honest get more satisfaction out of the brutality than out of the honesty. -- Richard Needham

A lie would have no sense unless the truths were felt to be dangerous.

Falsehood is easy, truth so difficult.

Deception is not a luxury, sometimes lying is absolutely necessary.

Telling the truth is necessary in a close relationship.

Always telling the truth often leads to more problems than good.

Lying in a close relationship is not completely cost free.

Using deception can lead to a lot of problems in its own right.

Trust is vital in a romantic relationship.

Our relationships survive, in part, due to the fact that people rarely get caught, or catch their spouses, when they do lie.

Using deception, whether it comes to light or not, creates distance in a relationship.

Even though we aren’t likely to get caught when we mislead others, using deception can still be problematic even when it is not detected.

The more we lie to others, the less we trust them.

Deception is a very useful when trying to control other people

Once a lie is told, it must berepeated*.*

People repeat the same lies so often that they eventually convince themselves that they are telling the truth

Our relationships are held together by a delicate balance of both honesty and deceit – both are required to make a relationship work

Telling the truth is essential because without it our relationships would fall apart.

Lying to a partner helps us protect the ones we love from unpleasant truths, it helps us avoid conflict, and it allows us to exercise some freedom from time to time

Reflect

What are the possible advantages of not *always* being completely candid and truthful?

Are there some reasons for lying, some of which may be more acceptable than others?

Is it possible that our close relationships could not work without some degree of deception?

Could any relationship withstand "the truth, and nothing, but the truth?"