

**Real-Life Connection**

How much are people in charge of what happens to them? Read the statements below. On your own paper, write whether you agree or disagree with each statement.

1. You may not be able to change your circumstances, but you can change how you react to them.
2. Your attitude has no effect on the things that can happen to you.
3. People can overcome just about anything if they try hard enough.

**WORD BANK**

**assess** (uh SES) *verb* When you **assess** something, you determine its value, size, or importance.

**EXAMPLE:** *To sell my car for the best price, I will have to **assess** what the car is worth.*

**convince** (kuhn VINS) *verb* To **convince** people is to persuade them to agree with you.

**EXAMPLE:** *Do you think you can **convince** your little sister to trade jackets with me?*

**determine** (di TUHR muhn) *verb* To **determine** something is to figure it out or to make a decision about it.

**EXAMPLE:** *It is difficult to **determine** whether he is telling me the truth.*

**perspective** (puhr SPEK tiv) *noun* Your **perspective** is how you see or understand something.

**EXAMPLE:** *From my **perspective**, going out on a weeknight was a bad decision.*

**truth** (trooth) *noun* Facts, or statements that can be proven, are considered the **truth**.

**EXAMPLE:** *Tell me the **truth**. Did you follow the instructions or not?*