Cyberbullying

Roleplaying game

Scenario

Josh is 14 years old. In his spare time, he spends a lot of time on the internet, either playing games or on social media. He often sees posts which people dislike and make mean comments, making fun of the person who posted them. Usually, the original poster is a stranger, and he finds the hate comments hilarious, so he shares the posts on his own social media.

One day, Josh made a short dance challenge video and posted in on his social media. Pretty soon, he started getting notifications one after the other. People were saying that he was terrible at dancing, and he shouldn't be dancing if he's so bad at it. There were laughing emojis and hate comments from strangers, people he had never met in his life. The video kept getting more and more views and shares. Soon, people in his school saw the video and started to make fun of him as well, sharing the video on their own personal media and laughing at him with their friends.

VICTIMS:

Pretend you are Josh.

What would you do?
What would you say to the cyberbullies, if you could have a one-on-one conversation with them?
What would you say to the bystanders?
What would you say to your friends?

Choose 3 of these questions 1-2 sentences for each conversation.

CYBERBULLIES:

Pretend you are a cyberbully who made hateful comments about Josh's dancing on his post.

What would you say to Josh if you saw him in person?
If he asked you why you were so mean to him, what would you say?
Would you react in the same way as you did online?

Write 3-4 sentences in total.

FRIENDS:

Pretend you're Josh's friend, and you see all this happening online.

What would you do?
What would you say to Josh?
Would you talk to anyone else?

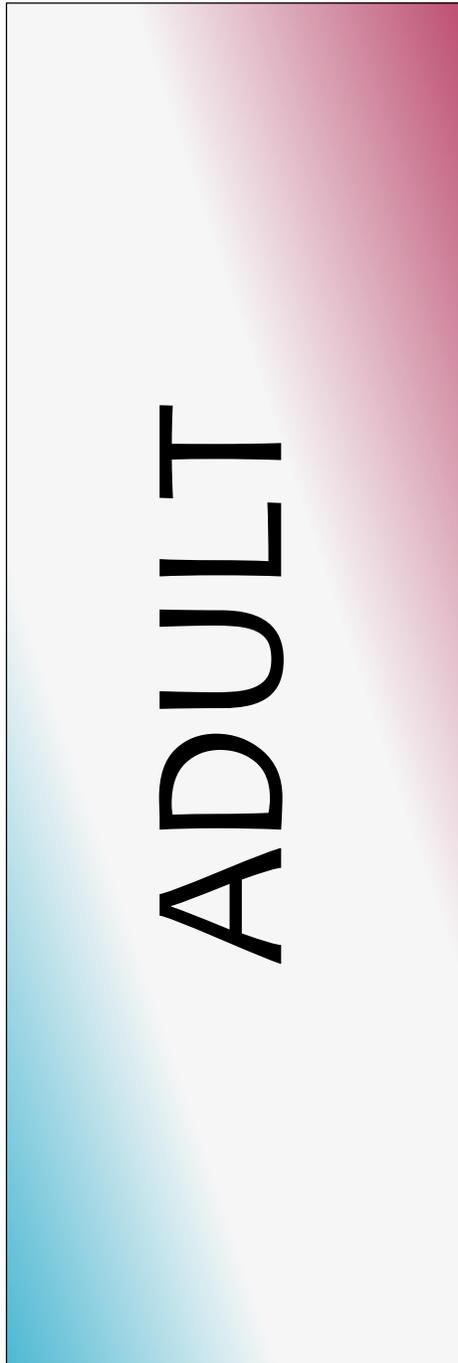Write 3-4 sentences in total.

BYSTANDERS:

Pretend you saw the posts of John's dancing, with a lot of people commenting hateful comments underneath.

What do you do?

Write 2-3 sentences.

Adult label

ADULT

Student labels

Cyberbully

Victim

Bystander

Friend