



10 CHARACTERISTICS • OF STUDENT LEADERS •



Students who lead well guide others with the help of:



1. COMMUNICATION & VISION

Great leaders articulate their vision for the future through words or pictures. They do it in a way that brings inspiration and encouragement to anyone within earshot.

▶ **Will your words ring in their ears?**



3. CHALLENGING THE STATUS QUO

Just because something has always been done in a certain way doesn't mean it's the right way. Great leaders sense when something is unjust. They stand up for what they believe in and create positive change.

▶ **What could be improved in your world?**



5. CULTURE

New cultural norms are created every day. Leaders who excel are committed to creating a culture where their peers can flourish. They do this by exemplifying the values they want to create and encouraging others to embrace those values.

▶ **How will you make small changes that transform the culture of the environments that matter to you?**



7. COURAGE

A courageous leader pursues courage over comfort and is willing to rise above their own limits to reach their potential. They view obstacles as inevitable challenges and tackle them along the pathway to success.

▶ **What will you do when the going gets tough?**



9. CHARISMA

Charisma is the x-factor that draws people into a leader's vortex. It's an unforgettable trait but it means being interested as well as interesting.

▶ **Do you genuinely care about others?**



2. CONVICTION ABOUT A CAUSE

Whether it is raising funds to help flood victims or rising against the tide of popular opinion, leaders stay true to their cause. The conviction they display is raw passion directed with concerted effort.

▶ **What are you truly passionate about changing?**



4. COMMITMENT

Many people make a start but only true leaders follow through to completion. Real leaders understand change happens incrementally not instantaneously. They have patience and work continuously towards their goals.

▶ **What are you truly passionate about changing?**



6. CURIOSITY

Albert Einstein once quipped, "I am neither especially clever nor especially gifted. I am only very, very curious." Leaders of any age are interested in other people. They want to understand what drives others in order to help them fulfill their potential.

▶ **Do you take the time to get to know others and find out what is challenging them?**



8. CONNECTION

We live in a world of connectedness, both on and offline. Leaders must master both mediums by leveraging the art of mass communication as well as personal letters to influencers, friends and followers.

▶ **How will you use the written word to elevate others?**



10. CHARACTER

Basketball coach John Wooden said "Ability may get you to the top, but it takes character to keep you there." Memorable leaders deserve their place on the pedestal.

▶ **Do you have clear values and stick to them?**