Worksheet 5. Reading: Today’s Youth

Read this excerpt from a speech to welcome new students at a big university. Answer the questions that follow using the vocabulary in the passage.

Today’s Youth

We look for people, like you, who have the things you have and that we value in young people: brains, imagination, courage, sweetness . . . [We know] that there is something about this adventure you begin today that . . .

Complete the sentences with the correct word from the word pool.

adventure  old  brains  sweetness  courage  value  imagination  young

1. Fred invested $3,000 in a new company. In three years, the __________________________ of the company doubled to $6,000.

2. Jane and Bob are going to sail around the world in their own sailboat. They don’t like easy vacations. They like __________________________.

3. People say that if you have __________________________, you are smart.

4. Our daughter Sue has an active ___________________________. She writes wonderful stories about animals for children.

5. You need __________________________ to face the difficult situations in life. Remember this saying: “Don’t give up!”

6. Life is not all ___________________________ and light. Sometimes there is sadness. Sometimes there are serious problems.

7. A famous writer said, “Youth is wasted on __________________________ people.” I don’t think that is true.

These words are from a welcome speech to the class of 2007, by Ted O’Neill, Dean of Admissions, at the University of Chicago.