Task chapter 4, Main values

You are going to work in groups of 4.

First part, 4 lessons

You have to create rules for an organization, government or school.

The rules you create have to be based on 3 or 4 main values.

Make sure your rules and main values cover the most important aspects of living or working together and make sure your rules are fair. You have to write down these thoughts in an essay (paper). The paper will be distributed among the other groups.

You create a poster in which you show us the rules and the main values.

Second part, 2 lessons

You have to do an elevator pitch of two minutes in which you explain briefly your main values and/or rules.

You have to be prepared to answer critical questions about your main values and rules, because you will be asked about the fairness of your rules.

Third part, 1 lesson or 2 lessons

We discuss the summary and try to recognise the main values in our society.

Chapter 4, Main values

A value is a thing or behaviour that is seen as important by a large group of people. The laws in our country are based on four of these values. Therefore, we call these four values the main values. The main values are: freedom, equality, democracy and tolerance.

Section 1, Freedom

1. There are two kinds of freedom:
2. freedom from oppression
3. freedom to make decisions.
4. Freedom has its limits and these limits are hard to define. Therefore, it is important to take into consideration:
5. good manners
6. someone else’s needs
7. someone else’s freedom
8. the other main values
9. Everyone has to bear responsibility, so everyone has to be able to justify his/her behaviour.

Section 2, Equality

1. As you learned in chapter 2, everyone is unique. And although everyone is unique, everyone is also equal.
2. And although everyone is equal, everyone has different needs. A good understanding of the word discrimination is in this case important. Discrimination means literally making distinguishes. Distinguishes can be made in two ways:
3. in a good way, this means that you take into consideration the differences between people, because all people are unique
4. in a bad way, this means that you consider people/a group of people inferior. This can have different reasons such as of the colour of their skin, their religion, sexual preferences, their sex.

Section 3, Democracy

1. Democracy is a Greek word, meaning ‘power to the people’. The Netherlands is a democracy, because:
2. we have the right to vote and there are elections
3. we are able to make known our opinions via a protest march, a letter to the editor of a newspaper, have a talk to a member of Parliament, have a talk to the city councillor, have a talk to the principal, etc.
4. In a true democracy the majority has to respect the interests of the minority.

Section 4, Tolerance

1. Tolerance means the acceptation that people act and behave different.
2. The question is whether we have to tolerate everything. The answer is no, because there are limits. The limits are the other main values. In cases freedom, equality or democracy are in danger we have to stand up and raise our voices.
3. If there are no limits considering tolerance, then this will lead to indifferent behaviour.

Task chapter 4, Main values

Third part, 2 lessons,

You have to do this task individually.

You are going write an essay in which you compare your main values with the main values in the summary. You can write the essay on a test paper or use a computer. The questions you have to answer are:

1. which main values are comparable? Explain carefully why you think your main values are similar.
2. Which rules belong to the main values mentioned in the summary if you use these main values in your situation (organisation, school, government)?
3. If you have to add one of the four main values of chapter 4 to your chosen values, which isn’t already in your concept, which one would that be? Explain carefully why.
4. If you only are allowed to use the four main values of chapter 4 and one of yours, which one would you add? Explain carefully why.
5. what did you learn from this task, which you can use in the future? Explain carefully.

Use the following layout for your essay (also copy what I wrote, except the dots and explanations of course ☺):

Name: …

1. First comparable values are … and …, because …

Second comparable values are … and …, because …

Etc.

Not comparable are the value(s) … (and), because …

1. I used a … (fill in whether it was a school, government, or …) to create my main values. If I have to use the four main values of chapter 4 in my situation I would think of the following norms.

The most important norm for freedom would be …, because …

The most important norm for equality would be …, because …

The most important norm for democracy would be …, because …

The most important norm for tolerance would be …, because …

1. I would add …, because …
2. I would add …, because …
3. What I learned from this task for the future is …, because …