

EXERCISE 14: One-track and both/and reactions

Below you will find several different situations.
 For each situation, describe how you think the 2 different types of people would react.
 Use extra paper if necessary.

*Also think about:
 How would you have reacted in the situations below?
 How would your boss have reacted?
 How would your husband/wife have reacted?*

Situation 1

A child comes home from school with a letter from the teacher, from which it is clear that the child's performance is far from satisfactory. The letter mentions that the child is a great soccer player, but, the teacher stresses, has difficulty concentrating in class and seems uninterested and lazy. For example, the teacher says the child is doing very poorly in German and maths.
 How do the parents react?

The one-track person's reaction

The both/and person's reaction

Situation 2

A company has had a good year with very satisfactory financial results, but the employees have not yet heard the good news. Since management has decided that the employees should benefit, the managing director has asked the personnel manager to put forward a proposal as to what can be done for the employees and how the news should be communicated to them.
 How does the personnel manager react?

The one-track person's reaction

The both/and person's reaction

Situation 3

Employees in one of the company's branch offices have long been discontented with conditions at work. Headquarters finally receives a letter from the branch manager, from which it is clear that the branch receives far too little information from headquarters.

How does the responsible person at headquarters react?

The one-track person's reaction**The both/and person's reaction****Situation 4**

A group of friends are gathered together for a festive occasion. A newcomer begins telling a very old and widely known joke with great enthusiasm and colourful body language.

How do the people in the group react?

The one-track person's reaction**The both/and person's reaction****Situation 5**

A seminar, held for a large group of people, is excellent in many ways. The presentation is dynamic and entertaining, and the content is particularly relevant. Unfortunately there are minor faults, including a number of spelling errors in the seminar material.

How do the participants react?

The one-track person's reaction**The both/and person's reaction**