

# education

ROUNDAABOUTTHEATRECOMPANY

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## How do real or perceived limitations affect your choices in life?

**Limitations:** the quality or state of being limited

1.) Explain a situation in which you were unable to do something because you didn't have enough money.

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2.) Explain a situation in which you were unable to do something because it wasn't physically possible for you.

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3.) Explain a situation in which you were unable to do something because of your own personal limitations (such as fear, doubt, lack of confidence, nervousness, etc.).

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4.) As a class, discuss the responses to questions 1-3 (above) and compare/contrast experiences.

5.) Read the following scene from *The Glass Menagerie*:

**Laura:** Mother, when you're disappointed, you get that awful suffering look on your face, like the picture of Jesus' mother in the Museum!

**Amanda:** Hush!

**Laura:** I couldn't face it. I couldn't.

**Amanda:** So what are we going to do now, honey, the rest of our lives? Just sit down in this house and watch the parades go by? Amuse ourselves with the glass menagerie? Eternally play those worn-out records your father left us as a painful reminder of him? We can't have a business career. No, we can't do that- that gives us indigestion. What is there left for us now, but dependency all our lives? I tell you, Laura, I know so well what happens to unmarried women who aren't prepared to occupy a position in life. I've seen such pitiful cases in the South- barely tolerated spinsters living on the same brother's wife or a sister's husband- tucked away in some mouse-trap of a room- encouraged by one in-law to go on and visit the next in-law- like a birdlike women- without any nest- eating the crust of humility all their lives! Is that the future that we've mapped out for ourselves? I swear I don't see any other alternative. And I don't think that's a very pleasant alternative. Of course- some girls *do* marry. My goodness, Laura, haven't you ever liked some boy?

**Laura:** Yes, Mother, I liked one once.

**Amanda:** He gave you his picture, too?

**Laura:** No, it's in the year-book, here.

**Amanda:** Oh- a high-school boy.

**Laura:** Yes. His name was Jim.

6.) Circle the limitations being described by the characters in this scene.

7.) Why do you consider these limitations?

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8.) Are they actual limitations or perceived limitations? Why?

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9.) Fill out the chart below with ACTUAL limitations and PERCEIVED limitations of Amanda and Laura using the scene above.

