2401-LDR-1003 Marine Corps Leadership

TERMINAL LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

1. Without the aid of the references, describe Marine Corps Leadership without omitting key components. (2401-LDR-1003)

ENABLING LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

1. Given a list of choices, identify elements of Marine Corps leadership, in accordance with the reference, MCTP 6-10B Marine Corps Values: A User's Guide for Discussion Leaders. (2401-LDR-1003a)

2. Given a list of choices, identify Marine Corps leadership traits, in accordance with the reference, MCTP 6-10B Marine Corps Values: A User's Guide for Discussion Leaders. (2401-LDR-1003b)

3. Given a list of choices, identify Marine Corps leadership principles, in accordance with the reference, MCTP 6-10B Marine Corps Values: A User’s Guide for Discussion Leaders. (2401-LDR-1003c)
1. INTRO TO LEADERSHIP.

   a. Leadership Defined. Leadership is defined as, “the sum of those qualities of intellect, human understanding, and moral character that enables a person to inspire and to control a group of people successfully.”

   b. The Primary Goal of Marine Corps Leadership. The primary goal of Marine Corps leadership is mission accomplishment. All other objectives are subordinate to that.

   c. The Objective of Marine Corps Leadership. The objective of Marine Corps Leadership is to develop the leadership qualities of Marines to enable them to assume progressively greater responsibilities to the Marine Corps and society.

2. THE 14 LEADERSHIP TRAITS: The Marine Corps’ 14 leadership traits can be easily remembered by the acronym “JJ DID TIE BUCKLE”. These are the 14 leadership traits:

   a. Justice: Justice is defined as the practice of being fair and consistent. A person who is just, gives consideration to each side of a situation and bases rewards or punishments on merit.

   b. Judgment: Judgment is your ability to think about things clearly, calmly, and in an orderly fashion so that you can make good decisions.

   c. Decisiveness: Decisiveness is being able to weigh all the facts against each other and quickly act -- arriving at a sound decision.

   d. Initiative: Initiative is taking action even though you haven't been given orders.

   e. Dependability: Dependability means that you can be relied upon to properly perform your duties while consistently putting forth your best effort in an attempt to achieve the highest standards of performance.

   f. Tact: The ability to deal with others without creating offense or being offensive; you can deal with people in a manner that will maintain good relations and avoid problems. It means that you are polite, calm, and firm in approach.
g. **Integrity**: Integrity means that you are honest and truthful in what you say and do. You put honesty, sense of duty, and sound moral principles above all else.

h. **Endurance**: It is the mental and physical stamina measured by the ability to withstand pain, fatigue, stress, and hardship.

i. **Bearing**: Bearing is defined as your general appearance, how you carry yourself, and how you conduct yourself. Your personal appearance and the condition of your clothing and equipment should be outstanding. Your manner should reflect alertness, competence, confidence, and control. Never be content with meeting only the minimum requirements.

j. **Unselfishness**: Be considerate of others. Give credit to those who work well rather than take the credit yourself.

k. **Courage**: Courage is a mental quality that recognizes fear of danger or criticism, but enables a person to proceed in the face of it with calmness and firmness. Knowing and standing for what is right, even in the face of danger and/or disapproval.

l. **Knowledge**: Knowledge is the range of one’s information including professional knowledge and an understanding of your Marines.

m. **Loyalty**: Loyalty means that you are faithful to your country, the Corps, and to your seniors, peers, and subordinates.

n. **Enthusiasm**: Enthusiasm is a sincere interest and exuberance in the performance of your duties.

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3. **THE 11 LEADERSHIP PRINCIPLES**: The eleven leadership principles are general rules that guide the conduct and actions of successful leaders.

   a. **Be Technically and Tactically Proficient**: This principle means that you must know your job thoroughly and prepare yourself for the next higher promotion.

   b. **Know Yourself and Seek Self-Improvement**: You must know yourself and be willing to improve all shortcomings in order to be a good leader.
c. **Know Your Marines and Look Out for Their Welfare.** This is one of the most important of the principles. You should know your Marines and how they react to different situations.

d. **Keep Your Marines Informed.** This promotes efficiency, lets Marines know they are part of the team, enhances teamwork and raises morale.

e. **Set the Example.** Marines instinctively look to their leaders for the patterns of conduct that make them the leaders they have become. We as Marines must set the example by demonstrating the leadership traits that are a measure of our leadership abilities, both professionally and personally.

f. **Ensure that the Task is Understood, Supervised and Accomplished.** When assigning a task/mission orders must be given in a clear and concise manner to avoid confusion or misunderstanding. Once orders have been issued, the task/mission must be supervised to ensure the order is properly executed and completed.

g. **Train Your Marines as a Team.** The leader trains his men to perform and react, to assist one another and ensure the mission is accomplished even when he is not present. This will be evident during the “Crucible.”

h. **Make Sound and Timely Decisions.** Once decisions have been made, your responsibility is to step off smartly and get the job done. However, you should expect that changes may have to be made to even the best plans, so you must adapt quickly and get on with the business at hand.

i. **Develop a Sense of Responsibility in Your Subordinates.** A subordinate with a sense of responsibility is more likely to take initiative in accomplishing a task.

j. **Employ Your Command in Accordance with its Capabilities.** To expect a unit to do more than it is capable of is to strain its capabilities and perhaps invite disaster. To ask it to do less is inefficient and is also detrimental to a unit. Recurrent failure may bring about a collapse of morale, esprit de corps, and efficiency. On the other hand, when the situation demands, men may sometimes have to be pushed far beyond their normal capabilities in order to exploit a victory or to avoid a costly defeat. Our Marine Corps' history is filled with examples of small units accomplishing the seemingly impossible.
k. **Take Responsibility for your Actions.** The leader of a unit is responsible for everything his unit does or fails to do. The leader can and should delegate authority, but he can never delegate his responsibility.

**SUMMARY**

During this period of instruction we have covered the following:

- Leadership defined
- The primary goal of Marine leadership
- The 14 leadership traits
- The 11 leadership principles

Remember, Marines are warriors first and foremost, so as you develop your leadership skills, you should keep in mind that they are skills you must be prepared to take into battle!

**REFERENCE(S):**
Marine Corps Manual
Marine Corps Values: A User’s Guide for Discussion Leaders, MCRP 6-11B