Peer Pressure Role-Playing

Instructions: Read each scene and answer the questions below each one.

Scene 1

Jayden: Look at that kid. He’s such a loser

Eric: Who?

Jayden: That new kid. What’s he even wearing anyway? That shirt is so dumb.

Eric: He’s alright. He’s just quiet.

Jayden: He’s alright? Did you see him in P.E.? He’s the whole reason we lost today. I was talking with the guys and we think we’re going to have to teach him a lesson.

Eric: What kind of lesson?

Jayden: You know. Just scare him a little on the bus ride home today. You in?

Eric: I don’t know. I think we should just leave him alone.

Jayden: You’re such a chicken, Eric. Are you worried about getting in trouble? Because that bus driver is like 90 years old. There’s no way he’ll know.

Eric: It’s not that. It’s just that ...

Jayden: Just that what? You’d rather hang out with that loser than us? Fine. I’ll find someone else to go to the game with me this weekend.

Eric: That’s not what I said, OK?

Jayden: Wow, Eric. You used to be so cool. Now you’re like my little sister or something. Are you with us today or not?

Who’s doing the pressuring?

What kinds of words is he using to do it?

What effect might those words have?

Is influence being used in a positive or negative way?
Scene 2

**Sofia:** I wish you would try out for the school musical with me.

**Maia:** But I don’t sing. I play basketball.

**Sofia:** Who says you can’t do both? Besides, I’ve heard you sing. I know you have a great voice.

**Maia:** Me? No, I don’t.

**Sofia:** Yes, you do. You have a beautiful voice. You just try to hide it.

**Maia:** Well, it’s embarrassing to sing in public.

**Sofia:** Why is it any different than making a jump shot in front of hundreds of people?

**Maia:** I don’t know. It just is.

**Sofia:** Well, it can’t hurt to try, can it? Plus, Josie and Nina are already going. It would be so cool for all four of us to do it together.

**Maia:** What if I bomb?

**Sofia:** I’m pretty sure you won’t bomb. But if you do, I’ll buy you a milkshake to make you feel better. Look, just think about it, OK? And stop worrying so much. It’ll be fun!

Who’s doing the pressuring?

What kinds of words is she using to do it?

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Is influence being used in a positive or negative way?