

## Leaders Need Five “L”s

### ICHINOSEKI College of Technology

A class president, students president, cheerleader, and captain of a basketball club --I have been leaders of various groups for nine years. I had both hard time and happy time then. I started to think how I could be a good leader. What is necessary to be a leader? From my experiences as a leader, I found five “L”s to be a good leader.

The first “L” is of course “Leadership”. When I ask “What is necessary to be a leader?” most people might say “Leadership”. So, what is the Leadership? I think it is not easy to explain the word. It has many meanings. In my opinion, it is skill to produce environment in which members can take part in activities positively and make efforts toward a common goal. I think a leader should be outstanding. But at the same time, a leader should make efforts in the background.

The second L is “Labor”. My elementary school was born by the merger of two schools when I became a sixth-grade student. Our homeroom teacher suggested that we should join a thirty-one legged race competition. In the beginning, one of my classmates became a captain. However, it was very difficult to move our legs together. The atmosphere of young class became black day by day. Nobody thought that we could cross the finish line. One day, he finally dropped from captain. I thought, “I will never give up!”, and I became the captain instead of him. I practiced hardest of all the classmates and encouraged them every day. At last, we could cross the finish line at the competition as a team, though we didn’t get any prize. I believe a leader should “Labor” hardest in the group.

The third L is “Loud voice”. Of course it is important to speak with big voice, but actually it means to have good communication. I joined a basketball club in my junior high school. Also, I became the captain when I was a second-grade student. There were eleven first-graders in my club. They were all naughty and didn’t listen to my words at all. “What should I do to break this situation?” I thought. And then, I started talking with a student who was trusted by other first graders. Thanks to this action, I could tell my mind to the members smoothly. That kind of communication was just “Loud voice” for me. It means to have communication with members.

The fourth L is “Love”. My junior high school was also born by the mixture of three schools when I became a third-grade student. After a month from the mixture, we had the first sports festival. It was very hard to make new tradition from zero. We often had conflicts in the young class. But I did my best as a leader with Love. This “Love” has three meanings. Love for members; if you don’t have this, no one will trust you. Love for the activity; it will become energy to do everything. Love for the position of a

leader; you will find joy with your job if you have this. At last, the sports festival was all succeeded with the love.

The final **L** is **L** laugh or smile. Maybe I made this speech without this because of tensions. **L** laughing could put members into good atmosphere. When the class atmosphere was dark, I always tried to laugh or smile to encourage my classmates. No good relationship among members can be born without a **L** laugh or smile.

The five “**L**”s that I presented today will make confidence as a leader. Now, I’m doing my best as an officer of a dormitory students association. But even now, I’m not satisfied with my jobs yet. I want to become a good leader who is confident in myself. To achieve this goal, I will do my best keeping the five “**L**”s in my mind. **L**eadership, **L**abor, **L**oud Voice, **L**ove, and **L** laugh.