Drama

Practice

Read the play below. Print this page and then write your answers.

### Sorry Park

**Setting:** A sidewalk outside Soiree Park

**Characters:**  
- LISSETTE  
- AARON  
- CRISTINA

**AARON:** They haven’t cleaned up the park yet! What’s taking the city so long?

**LISSETTE:** Yeah, what a shock. Do you think they needed more than half a day?

**CRISTINA:** Seriously, you guys, I’m going to write a letter to the mayor. Someone should do something about this.

**AARON:** That’s a good idea, Cristina. A letter is always a good start.

**LISSETTE:** Sorry, guys. I admire your enthusiasm, but it won’t work.

**CRISTINA:** Hey, I saw something really interesting on the local news the other day. A bunch of kids our age got together and cleaned up the beach along the lake a few miles west of here. There was so much trash on the beach that families didn’t want to go there. People complained, but no one did anything about it—so these kids formed a group and cleaned up the beach themselves.

**LISSETTE:** Maybe that group of kids could do something about fixing up Soiree Park.

**CRISTINA:** That’s not what I mean, Lisette! I mean that maybe we should do something about Soiree Park. We’ve got some time, and it would be fun.

**LISSETTE:** Fun? Not for me! You couldn’t pay me enough to wade into that sea of garbage! I can barely stand to walk on the path through the middle of it! Anyway, it’s too big of a job.

**CRISTINA:** If we enlisted enough kids to help, we could do it! I bet that adults would help, too, and we could even get a sponsor. Lenny’s Pizzeria might give us free pizza when we’re done. After all, they do it for the Little League champs.
AARON: Okay, Cristina, count me in.
LISSETTE: What?
AARON: I’m in. It’s a good idea, Lisette. I think that we can make it work. I think that we can make Soiree Park a better place.
CRISTINA: Come on, Lisette. You have to be part of this group!
LISSETTE: I think I’ll pass for now. I have to get home.
AARON: But what about the ducks in the pond at the center of the park? Don’t you love ducks? Think about all of the hazards there.
CRISTINA: That’s right. All that trash can’t be good for the ducks, and who knows what kind of spoiled food they might eat.
LISSETTE: Hmmm... You do bring up a good point. I guess it’s not really fair to the ducks that people litter their home and make their habitat dangerous.
CRISTINA: Lisette, we would love for you to get involved. We’ll all have a great time working together! Remember, we can make a difference. Those kids who worked on the beach made a huge difference.
LISSETTE: Okay, I guess you’re right. We can make difference. I’m in too.
CRISTINA: That settles it! I’ll get permission to post a few signs at school tomorrow and we’ll have our first meeting next Monday afternoon.

1. How do the characters in this story respond to challenges? List the text clues that help you determine this.

2. What is the theme of this selection?