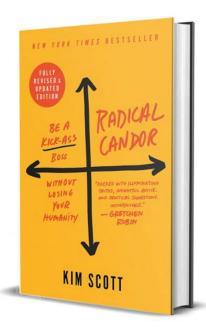
# RADICAL CANDOR BOOK CLUB DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

A Complete Guide



A great way to practice the principles of Radical Candor is by starting a virtual book club. We've put together this list of Radical Candor book club questions to get you started with the discussions for each chapter.

You can also visit our book page to buy copies of *Radical Candor* in bulk at a reduced rate.

After your club members have read the book, use the critical thinking questions below to help guide the discussion.



#### Part 1:

#### A New Management Philosophy

#### Introduction

- 1. Describe an experience when you didn't give direct feedback, but you wish you did.
- 2. Who are the best leaders you've worked for in your career? What made them so exceptional? What can you learn?
- 3. Tell a story about the worst boss you ever had. What did they do that made them so bad? How can you avoid those mistakes?



# Chapter 1: Build Radically Candid Relationships

- 1. What does the Radical Candor book say are the key responsibilities of a boss?
- 2. Many people mistakenly call Radical Candor the same as brutal honesty. What is the difference between Radical Candor and brutal honesty?
- 3. What are some ways that you show you Care Personally at work?
- 4. Do you think Challenging Directly is a strength or a weakness for you?

- Radical Candor in 6 Minutes
- Radical Candor Is Not Brutal Honesty



# Chapter 2: Get, Give, and Encourage Guidance

- 1. Describe an experience when you received feedback that you appreciated and that was delivered in a helpful and caring way.
- 2. Describe an experience when you received feedback in a way that you didn't learn from because you resented the way it was delivered to you.
- 3. Have you ever been so nice that it ended up working against you?
- 4. Have you ever felt there was no way to not be mean if you needed to get your desired outcome?

- A Story of Obnoxious Aggression
- A HIP Approach to Feedback
- Relationships, Not Power, Drive You Forward



### Chapter 3: Understand What Motivates Each Person on Your Team

- Have you ever underestimated an employee's contributions because they weren't gunning for a promotion? What happened? Did you regret it?
- 2. Have you ever clipped the wings of an employee on a steep growth trajectory? What happened? Did you regret it?
- 3. Are you more at risk of being an absentee manager or a micromanager? What kinds of situations push you towards one of these modes?
- 4. Are you currently on a gradual or steep growth trajectory? Were you ever on the opposite one?

- Superstar Mode vs. Rock Star Mode
- Are You a Micromanager.

  Absentee Manager, or Thought
  Partner?
- **The Problem with Passion**



# Chapter 4: Drive Results Collaboratively

- 1. Have you ever tried to tell a team of people what to do? What were the results?
- 2. Which step(s) of the Get Stuff Done (GSD) Wheel are easiest or most comfortable for you? What steps do you tend to skip? Where do you get stuck?
- 3. What are some of the practices your team or organization has today that fall into the different steps of the GSD wheel?
- 4. Are you a quiet listener or a loud listener?
- 5. Do you want to foster a culture of debate on a team? If so, how will you do it? If not, why not?
- 6. How do you help your team make decisions? Are you worried you grab too many decisions?

- Debaters & Deciders
- 5 Ways to Successfully
  Develop Your Team
- Are You a Quiet or Loud Listener?

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# Part 2: Tools and Techniques



## Chapter 5: Relationships

- 1. What activities do you do to stay centered?
- 2. Describe an experience when you weren't able to bring your best self to work. What happened?
- 3. How do you build trust with your direct reports/staff? What strategies or activities have been most effective, and how can you tell?
- A Conversation with Kim Scott
- Radical Candor with Direct Reports
- Digging into Toxic Stew



### Chapter 6: Guidance

- 1. Have you solicited feedback from your direct reports/staff? If so, how have you done it, and has it been successful?
- 2. Do you have a go-to question for soliciting feedback? What is it?
- 3. What are some of the ways that you have rewarded criticism?
- 4. Which of the *Radical Candor* book's tips for giving guidance did you find most helpful?
- 5. What's something you could do tomorrow with someone on your team to offer *Radical Candor*?

- Soliciting Feedback
- 11 Ways to Get feedback From Others
- ∩ The Go-to Question



#### Chapter 7: Team

- 1. Do you or can you begin facilitating "Career Conversations" with your direct reports, as a way of caring personally and helping them map out their career trajectories?
- 2. Do you know the balance of rock stars and superstars on your team? How do you think about growth for different people?
- 3. Did any of the *Radical Candor* book's suggestions for hiring and firing resonate as applicable to your team/company?

- A New Mindset for Firing
- How to Have Radically Candid Career Conversations
- Navigating Emotional
  Reactions at Work



#### **Chapter 8: Results**

- 1. How do you approach 1:1 meetings? How's that different than the recommendations laid out in the *Radical Candor* book? Will you change your 1:1's?
- 2. How do you help nurture new ideas? Which ideas from the book will you adopt?
- 3. Do you hold staff meetings? How do they compare to the approach in the book? Any recommendations that you'll incorporate?
- 4. Do you think the Big Debate or Big Decision meetings described in the book would help your team?
- 5. What do you think about the number of meetings suggested in this chapter?
- 6. How do you prevent meeting-creep from taking over the time your team should be spending executing?

- Creating Effective 1:1 Meetings
- Get to the CORE of Giving Radically Candid Feedback
- Meet Like a Boss The 411 on 1:1s



# Bonus Chapter: A Radically Candid Performance Review

- 1. What are the elements of the formal performance review process at your organization?
- 2. Are these working why or why not?
- 3. Are you having regular development conversations with everyone on your team?
- Impromptu Feedback How Frequent Should It Be?
- Why You Can't Skimp on
  Development Conversations
- ∩ The Measurement Problem:
  Development Versus
  Management



We hope these questions for your Radical Candor book club are helpful in creating a meaningful discussion with your team! Of course, understanding the ideas is just the first step, and changing your habits and day-to-day actions is hard.

Let us know how it goes! Receive discounts on bulk orders of Radical Candor at BookPal; 800 CEO Read; & Bulk Books.

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