Simon Birch Assignment

Over the past few weeks in Life Curriculum, we have looked at different types of families and friends, and the influence that they can have on a person's development. We discussed the ways in which families and friends try to handle conflicts, and the potential consequences of not exploring someone else's perspective before judging them. We also wrote a letter to ourselves - as potential future parents - and outlined rules and expectations we will have for our adolescents.

The movie Simon Birch provides an excellent example of a young adolescent who is experiencing challenges with both his family and friends. In a **one typed page reflection (minimum)** you are expected to comment on each of the following questions as you interpreted them from the video:

1. Explain the serious challenges Simon was experiencing as he became a teenager.

2) Describe the friendship that developed between Simon and Joe.

a) Would you classify this friendship as an intimate friendship or an acquaintance friendship?

b) What evidence can you find to support your argument?

c) What strengths and weaknesses do each boy bring to the friendship?

3) Describe the relationship that developed between Simon and his parents.

a) List at least 3 negative aspects of growing up in this environment.

b) Provide at least one way that this family could have been more supportive of Simon.

4. Explain how Simon showed true "heroism" at the end of the movie. Would you have been able to react in a similar way? Why? Why not?

In order to organize your ideas I suggest writing a new paragraph for each number. Since there are four main questions, your reflections should be made up of at least four paragraphs.