

## Movie Assignment – Karate Kid

From the beginning of the movie to end, Daniel has always been interested in karate. But at the beginning of the movie, he seem to be not that committed to it, even way back when he lived in New Jersey, before moving to California.

He sort of started karate up again because of the unlawful group of individuals that he had to face every day. Daniel's readiness level started off to be about a level two on the readiness scale, such that he was somewhat competent in karate, but had a low commitment level with it back in New Jersey, but once he faced those people, Daniel gained a great amount of interest in learning karate, illustrating a high level of commitment with it, but went down to a low competence level, in which that he didn't really perform the art of karate quite correctly.

As Mr. Mayagi taught Daniel more about and how to do karate in the proper forms that he knew what karate was supposed to be, Daniel progressed through those levels of readiness (further explained later). Daniel struggled a little bit with staying committed in training for the tournament, but his skills and competence level grew throughout the entire duration of his training.

At the end of the movie Daniel's readiness level was at a level four, based on the readiness scale, with high competence in karate and containing a high commitment level with the art. It was for sure an adventure for Daniel from the start to the end, becoming the best he can be and more.

The main leadership style that Mr. Mayagi uses to teach Daniel karate is directing/telling. As Daniel's becomes more competent in his skills or karate, Mr. Mayagi's leadership style changes slightly to a more coaching style in order to help Daniel practice and train more with what he is learning. And then more seen during the tournament, Mr. Mayagi's leadership style starts off to be more supporting, and shifts to be more delegating as Daniel competes during the championships (further explained later).

Four Readiness Levels:

*D1 (Low): Low Competence, High Commitment*

Daniel showed a low competence level yet with a high commitment level (a low readiness level) in relation to karate after the ambush he got into with those group of boys on the night of Halloween, and then again soon after during Daniel's first handful of sessions when he was first learning those basic movements with Mr. Mayagi.

*D2: Some Competence, Low Commitment*

The second level of readiness can be seen at the beginning of the movie when Daniel displayed past experience with karate back when he lived in New Jersey by learning it at the YMCA. Daniel back then had some competence but low commitment in karate when he was exposed to it back in New Jersey. He was learning karate, but was not able to take it further, indicating a low commitment level on his part.

*D3: High Competence, Variable Commitment*

When Daniel was painting the house when Mr. Mayagi went out to go fishing for the day he did so, Daniel was angry to be told to paint the house, but he did have just enough motivation left in him to continue painting the house, even though he was upset about the whole situation that day. At that point in his learning, Daniel was pretty high competent in his karate skills, the skills that he learned and developed, but his commitment level was varying. This lesson was an example of the third level of readiness shown by Daniel in the movie.

*D4: High Competence, High Commitment*

The fourth level of readiness can be seen by the presentation of the training montage of Daniel, after Mr. Mayagi celebrated his wedding anniversary in the movie. Daniel developed a high level of competence in karate, and also a high level of commitment in practice karate, revealing his true potential, prepping for the tournament.

### Four Styles of Leadership:

#### *Directing/Telling*

Mr. Mayagi showed a directing and telling style of leadership during his first lessons for Daniel.

For example, when Daniel washed and waxed the cars, Mr. Mayagi directed Daniel to do so, by telling him to put the wax on a certain way and then taking the wax off of the cars exactly the opposing way (teaching Daniel to block attacks from above).

Then with sanding the floors, Mr. Mayagi told Daniel to do so, directing him to “right to circle” and also “left to circle,” indicating the motions he should be performing to complete his task of sanding the floors (teaching Daniel to block attacks from below).

Another example being when it came to painting the fence. Mr. Mayagi told Daniel to paint the front and back of his fence outlining his backyard, by directing him to do so with up and down motions, with the movement coming from his wrists.

And then another example with directing Daniel how to punch after all of these lessons. And then throughout it all, Mr. Mayagi constantly told Daniel to always to breathing in, and then breathing out, at a steady and consistent pace (improving on his breathing techniques).

#### *Selling/Coaching*

When it came to having Daniel paint the house and learning how to balance, Mr. Mayagi presented himself with a more coaching leadership style. Daniel knew mostly what to do, just had to be told to do it, and maybe what exactly what to do, and he did it.

#### *Supporting/Participating*

Mr. Mayagi had to take on a more supporting leadership style for during when he came home from his day of fishing, when Daniel was directed to paint the house, and Daniel was very upset, and needed a bit of motivation to keep him in training. That support and motivation by Mr. Mayagi was very

key for Daniel's upkeep in continuing his learning and training in karate for the tournament. And also reassuring Daniel that everything that he has been doing is all for something.

And then finally, when Daniel was pretty much on his own with using what he had learned for a greater purpose, during the tournament, Mr. Mayagi had to continue to motivate and be there for Daniel to continue to fight throughout his matches, continually supporting him throughout the whole entire way.

### *Observing/Delegating*

This leadership style of observing and delegating, can be seen of Mr. Mayagi during the championships of the tournament at the very end of the movie, when it was all up to Daniel to perform his skills, passion, and determination to do his very best in the form of karate.