Read through these two scenarios, and answer the questions:

Stacy is an acquaintance. You’ve taken a few classes together, and she seems friendly. It’s currently 4 weeks into the school year, and you haven’t noticed whether Stacy has come to class over the first few weeks.

Interaction #1

Today, Stacy is 10 minutes late to your third group meeting. She missed the first two meetings. When Stacy arrives, she exclaims "I'm so sorry I'm late--I promise it won't happen again!" As the meeting progresses, it becomes clear that Stacy didn't prepare at all--none of her work is done!

Questions:

1. Why do you think Stacy missed the first two meetings?

Your answer here.

2. What is your reaction to Stacy's apology and claim?

Your answer here.

Interaction #2

Three days later, you have your fourth group meeting. The meeting started 30 minutes ago, and Stacy hasn't arrived yet.

Questions:

1. Why do you think Stacy isn't here yet?

Your answer here.

2. What is your evaluation of Stacy? Why?

Your answer here.

Jane is a good friend, and you hang out all the time. She’s a kind and considerate person, and places high value on others’ time. As a result, Jane is almost always early for meetings. Jane is great to work with on group projects because she always puts in tons of effort. This semester, Jane has an internship with a local business! Jane is excited about this position and hopes it will lead to job offers after graduation.

Your professor has assigned groups for an upcoming project. You end up in the same group as Jane, one of your classmates.

Interaction #1

Today, Jane is 10 minutes late to your third group meeting. She missed the first two meetings. When Jane arrives, she exclaims "I'm so sorry I'm late--I promise it won't happen again!" As the meeting progresses, it becomes clear that Jane didn't prepare at all--none of her work is done!

Questions:

1. Why do you think Jane missed the first two meetings?

Your answer here.

2. What is your reaction to Jane's apology and claim?

Your answer here.

Interaction #2

Three days later, you have your fourth group meeting. The meeting started 30 minutes ago, and Jane hasn't arrived yet.

Questions:

1. Why do you think Jane isn't here yet?

Your answer here.

2. What is your evaluation of Jane? Why?

Your answer here.

What kind of attributions did you make for Jane, and what kind of attributions did you make for Stacy? How were they different? Use the terms below to compare and contrast your attributions.

Locus of Control: Internal vs. External

Stability: Temporary vs. Permanent

Specificity: Unique vs. Global

Accountability: Controllable vs. Uncontrollable