 Resource 10

Example: It has been reported to the Principal that there were twenty students smoking outside the school gates during class time. He is given their names by a student witness. He only has this witness as proof and although the accused deny it, he believes that this witness is honest and trustworthy. He begins to suspend all twenty students.

He gets through ten suspensions and the students are picked up by their parents.

By the time he gets to the eleventh student, a teacher comes to him and says that she was outside the gates when the incident supposedly happened and she saw none of the twenty students. She also recalls numerous times where the student witness had lied to her, thus bringing the credibility of this witness into question.

The Principal replies, “Sorry, I already suspended ten of these kids and it’s too late to reverse it, I’ll look like a fool. I’ll suspend the remaining ten so that it’s fair for them though.”