


FIGURE 1.2 What Does the Downward Spiral Look Like?

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WHAT THE STUDENT MAY FEEL . . .		HOW THE TEACHER, PARENT OR PEER MAY INTERPRET . . .
“The demands upon me are too hard/too easy/stupid/pointless, etc.”		“The student doesn’t seem to care about schoolwork.”
“The teacher’s directions are confusing me.”		“The student is not listening and following directions.”
“Even when I try, I fail.”		“The student needs to try harder.”
“I can’t sit still and pay attention in class.”		“The student does not pay attention.”
“I always forget what I have learned.”		“The student does not remember what I have taught.”
“The teacher doesn’t care about me.”		“The student does not respect me.”
“I’ll never do well in school.”		“The student is not motivated.”
“I don’t want to go to school anymore. I might as well drop out.”		“I can’t get through to this student.”