Friction: Friend or Foe?

Even though we don’t usually think about it, we feel and use the force of friction every day in many ways. Sometimes friction can be our friend and other times it is our worst enemy. As an introduction to friction, I am going to describe 4 situations that involve friction. You tell me if friction is acting like a friend or foe?

1. You are sliding into second base and scratch up your leg. Friend or Foe?

2. You are trying to turn your bike around a sharp curve. Friend or Foe?

3. You are trying to race down a water slide at Six Flags. Friend or Foe?

4. You are trying to push your desk into another room. Friend or Foe?

5. You are driving in a car and see a possum walking in front of you. Friend or Foe?