

Scenario 1: A guarded conversation

Mentor: So tell me about what's on your mind these days.

Mentee: I just feel so tired all the time. I didn't have a chance to finish grading my students' essays so they don't have feedback and I'm behind in my gradebook.

Mentor: Well, you know I just stay up late to finish my grading so you can do it, too. I know you can! Everyone is tired. That is just part of the job.

Mentee: Yes, but I was up late with my son already and I have so many different levels in my class and so it takes so long to give each student meaningful feedback at their level.

Mentor: You think it's hard for you? I have three new students this week and they are all beginners in the English language. One boy even yelled at me on his first day. You are not the only one with challenges. Maybe you should come to school earlier in the morning. Then you could have more time, you know?

Mentee: Yes maybe.

Mentor: You know...you should have just focused on only one or two aspects of their essays instead of trying to give feedback on everything. That's what a smart teacher would have done. At least, that's what I do and it goes much faster.

Mentee: I did not think of that.

Mentor: Well, now you know. That's what I'm here for, right? So...what else? What else do you want to talk about today?

Mentee: Nothing. Everything else is fine. Thank you.

