

Ritwick Johari

Assignment

Question 1: Reflecting on a Personal Situation as a CR

During my time as a Class Representative (CR), I once encountered a situation that taught me a lot about communication, emotions, and expectations in friendships.

Situation: There was a phase when I felt that some of my friends were only reaching out to me for notes, important information, or class-related help. Although I knew it was part of my role as a CR, I started to feel unappreciated on a personal level. In a moment of frustration, I jokingly said to one of my close friends, “You’re just using me for notes. There’s no real friendship here, I’m just the CR you all depend on.”

Even though I said it playfully, the words didn’t land as a joke. My friends felt deeply hurt and believed I had questioned their intentions and the authenticity of our friendship. They thought I didn’t value the bond we shared, and that I saw them as selfish. As a result, they distanced themselves from me, and I felt disowned by the group I once felt so comfortable with.

My Feelings: In that moment, I felt lonely, misunderstood, and guilty. My intention was never to hurt anyone; it was just a poor way of expressing that I was feeling emotionally overwhelmed and taken for granted. But I also learned that jokes made out of frustration can be harmful, especially when not communicated with the right tone or context.

Friend Expectations: My friends, on the other hand, probably expected me to trust them more and believe in the friendship we had. They may have assumed that I, being the CR and someone close to them, would understand their reliance was not out of selfishness but out of comfort and familiarity. My words made them feel like I didn’t value that bond.

Effects: Eventually, I found a new group of friends who appreciated me for who I was, not just the position I held. They supported me emotionally and respected my efforts without making me feel used. We’re still friends to this day.

This experience taught me that communication matters more than intention. It’s important to express how we feel, but also to do it in a respectful, understanding way. Being a CR comes with responsibilities, but it doesn’t mean we stop being human — we too need genuine friendships and emotional support.

Question 2: Ishikawa Diagram

Situation: During one of the hackathons, I was in a team where two of my teammates had a serious disagreement regarding how we should present our project. One suggested we go with a **Q&A (Question-Answer)** format to make it more engaging, while the other preferred a **traditional structured presentation** where we showcase the solution step-by-step.

The debate turned into a heated argument just before the final presentation. Both refused to compromise, and we couldn’t continue as a team for that hackathon. We missed the chance to showcase our hard work, and it felt like the entire effort went to waste.

Advantage: However, this failure gave way to a new beginning. I later formed a new team, and with better collaboration and understanding, we went on to **win multiple hackathons together**.

Reflection and What I Would Tell Junior Ritwick:

If I could go back and speak to **Junior Ritwick**, I would say:

“Ritwick, every team will have conflicts—but what defines success is how you handle them. In that moment, you were confused and hurt because you genuinely wanted everyone to shine together. You thought staying neutral would calm things down, but sometimes, taking charge as a mediator is essential. Next time, help your teammates talk it out, set roles early, and always prioritize teamwork over ego.”

My Feelings at That Time

At that time, I felt **disappointed**, **helpless**, and honestly a bit **guilty**. I wished I had intervened more strongly to resolve the conflict. But later, I also felt **relieved and grateful** that a better, more collaborative team found me—and that we could thrive together.

Ishikawa Diagram:

