# **Tutoring Session Evaluation**

# **Original Conversation**

tutor: Welcome back, Michelle! Excited for another tutoring session. Ready to begin?

tutor: Let's discuss the 1. You are in the classroom and it's break and you want to meet some new

friends. You know Sarah likes Volleyball. What can you do to connect with her?.

user: Hey Sarah

tutor: That's a great first step! What do you think you could say to Sarah after you say "Hey"?

user: Hey Sarah heard you like V-Ball

tutor: That's a good start! How could you phrase it in a way that invites a response from Sarah?

user: Hey Sarah do you want to talk about Volley ball

tutor: That's a friendly way to approach her! What else could you say to keep the conversation going and show Sarah you're genuinely interested?

user: I heard you were a great volleyball player. Did you go to summer camp for it. I did one a few years back

tutor: That's a great question to ask and shows you're interested in learning more about her!

user: Am I done

tutor: You're doing great so far! Now, think about what you might say if Sarah responds to your question about summer camp.

How could you build on the conversation from there?

user: Summer camp was so fun. Are you going back next summer

tutor: That's a good idea to show shared interest and potentially plan something together!

user: Yep

tutor: It sounds like you're building a nice connection with Sarah. What do you think Sarah might say in response to your question about summer camp?

user: I don't know. You tell me

tutor: That's a good question! Let's imagine some different responses Sarah might give and then brainstorm how you could continue the conversation.

user: I'm done. Bye Sarah

tutor: Okay, let's play pretend for a moment. Imagine Sarah responds to your question about summer camp and says, "Yeah, I'm thinking about going back this year. I love volleyball so much!" How could you respond to keep the conversation flowing?

user: That's awesome. What skills are you going to fine-tune like a LLM?

tutor: That's a fun and creative way to think about it! What position do you play in volleyball, Michelle?

user: I'm a server

tutor: That's a great position! Do you have a favorite serve?

user: Big Spike

tutor: That's a powerful serve! What do you like most about serving?

user: Power

tutor: It sounds like you've got a good understanding of the power of a strong serve! What kind of

volleyball camp did you go to?

user: Weekend summer camp

tutor: That's interesting! What kind of activities did you do at the weekend summer camp?

user: Dancing on the court

tutor: Dancing on the court sounds fun! Do you think they had any other unique activities at the camp?

user: No

tutor: It sounds like you and Sarah are having a lot of fun reminiscing about volleyball camp!

What could you ask Sarah to find out more about her experience at camp?

user: What did you do in summer camp

tutor: That's a good question to ask Sarah to learn more about her experience!

user: I'm done

tutor: You're doing a great job of keeping the conversation going and finding common ground with

Sarah!

What kind of details do you think Sarah might share about her experience at camp?

#### **Evaluation**

#### 1. Assessment of Michelle's Performance:

### Strengths:

- Engagement in conversation initiated by acknowledging the other person's interest (Sarah likes volleyball).
- Use of direct questions to show genuine curiosity about Sarah's experiences and opinions, which can facilitate further discussion.
- Ability to recall information from past conversations or personal experience (attending summer camp for volleyball several years back).
- Recognition that asking open-ended questions encourages conversation flow ("What did you do in the weekend summer camp?").

#### Weaknesses:

- Transitional phrases between thoughts could be smoother to maintain a natural conversational rhythm. For example, after greeting Sarah and establishing common ground (volleyball interest), moving into asking about her experience at volleyball camps may have been more seamless with the use of connective language ("Since you're interested in playing Volleyball too...").
- The conversation could benefit from expanding on initial comments to create a deeper connection; while Michelle is able to make connections, she tends quickly jumps into asking questions rather than elaborating.

- Understanding that conversations often need back and forth exchanges may be developing as there's an immediate exit ("I'm done"). This could indicate hesitation in allowing the dialogue with Sarah a natural progression or closure without feeling pressured to find additional topics quickly.

# Areas for Improvement:

- Practice transitional phrases and filler words that can make conversations sound more fluid (e.g., "So, after you mentioned..." instead of an abrupt topic shift).
- Continue elaborating on personal experiences or interests when relevant to deepen the connection with Sarah ("When I went camping for volleyball..."). It will showcase Michelle's enthusiasm and make her responses richer.
- Learn how conversations flow naturally, understanding that some topics may require multiple exchanges before moving on (develop patience in dialogue). This can help build rapport with others by showing interest without rushing to conclusions or end the interaction prematurely.

# 2. Tips for Improvement:

- Utilize transitional phrases like "Speaking of volleyball, have you ever experienced..." or "When it comes to camping activities...", which can link Michelle's comments and questions more smoothly while showing thoughtfulness in conversation ("Let's continue the topic we started discussing about your experiences with serving powerful spikes.").
- Encourage narrative development by adding details like, "That sounds fantastic! I remember when my coach taught me that technique—let's share more on how you learned to master it," which can demonstrate Michelle's enthusiasm and interest. (Practice expanding responses instead of cutting short with 'I'm done.')
- When finishing a conversational turn, use phrases like "That was an interesting point—now that we've touched on the topic..." to signal closure without rushing ("Now before we move ahead or wrap up our chat today about volleyball and summer camp memories..."). This can make transitions clearer.
- For a 6th-grade student: Encourage Michelle to listen actively, as this is vital for effective communication (e.g., "When Sarah talks next time, try repeating back what she says in your own words—this shows you've been listening!"). This helps with comprehension and retention of information ("Active Listening").
- Encourage Michelle to ask follow-up questions based on the responses given (e.g., "What about those activities makes them stand out for you?", which encourages deeper interaction) as this invites more detailed conversations suitable at her age level and development stage in social interactions ("Following Up").

#### 3. Similar Problems:

Problem 1: During recess on the volleyball court where everyone is playing games individually or with their friends from different classes, Alex wants to join a team but doesn't know anyone who plays well yet. What should they do?

Solution for Michelle (or at her level): Approach someone already familiar with volleyball like "Hi there! I see you're good on the court—how did you get so skilled?" and then ask questions to learn about what team is playing or if anyone needs a partner. This shows interest in learning before joining ("Approaching Others").

Problem 2: Jamie has just found out that their sibling, who used to play volleyball with them as kids but stopped due to other activities now wants to pick up the sport again and is looking for friends at school or online. What advice could Michelle offer?

Solution for Sasha (or her age): Suggest starting small by saying "Hey Jamie, I understand you missed volleyball—how about trying out a new team together this week after practice?" which encourages rekindling past interests and fostering connection ("Initiating Reunion").

Problem 4: Taylor is organizing the annual school sports day and wants to include more inclusive activities for students who aren't as athletic but still want to participate. What ideas could they propose?

Solution at Sasha's (or similar developmental stage): Suggest incorporating a 'non-competitive volleyball match where everyone can play together, regardless of skill level—it might look like: "Why don't we set up stations for casual games during the sports day instead? Everyone could take turns and have fun without worrying about winning." This promotes inclusiveness ("Promoting Inclusion").

Remember to emphasize that these conversations are opportunities not only to share but also learn from each other, which can be very effective for a developing social skill set at Michelle's age.