

Name _____

Guiding Influence Answer Key

Answers will vary, but all correct responses should include:

- A clear explanation of **how the mentor influences** the character's thinking or choices.
- A specific moment where the character uses advice, encouragement, or guidance from the mentor.
- A direct connection between the mentor's teachings and the character's growth in actions, beliefs, or self-understanding.
- Logical cause and effect: what the mentor taught and how it changed the character's response.

An acceptable structure might describe how the mentor's encouragement helps the character face a challenge they would normally avoid.

Teacher's Guide

- Introduce the idea that **mentors help shape character growth** by providing wisdom, encouragement, or new perspectives.
- Encourage students to identify common mentor roles such as coaches, teachers, older siblings, or community members.
- For differentiation, provide a list of mentor traits and prompts like "The mentor taught the character to..." or "Because of the mentor's advice...".
- For extension, have students write a short scene where the mentor gives advice or create a comic-style layout showing the mentor's influence across three moments in the character's life.