

Name _____

Guided Growth

Directions: Read the passage below about a student and a mentor. Then, answer the comprehension and reflection questions that follow.



The Mentor Meeting

Jordan sat nervously outside Coach Ramirez's office. The basketball season hadn't been going as planned, and his grades had started slipping too. When the door opened, Coach Ramirez smiled and waved him in. "I hear you've been having a rough few weeks," he said kindly. Jordan nodded, staring at his shoes. "I'm trying, Coach, but I can't keep up with everything," he admitted.

Coach Ramirez leaned back in his chair. "It's okay to feel that way," he said. "Part of being a team player is knowing when to ask for help." He encouraged Jordan to make a schedule to balance his practices and homework, and offered to check in once a week. Before leaving, Jordan said, "Thanks, Coach. I really appreciate you listening." Coach Ramirez smiled. "That's what mentors do—we guide, but you're the one doing the work."

Comprehension Questions:

1. Who is Jordan talking to in this story?
2. How does Jordan feel at the beginning of the story?
3. What advice does Coach Ramirez give Jordan?
4. Why can Coach Ramirez be considered a mentor instead of just a coach?
5. What does this story teach about asking for help from an adult or authority figure?

Reflection Questions:

1. Describe a time when you asked an adult for advice. How did they help you?
2. Why is it important to talk respectfully when you ask for help?
3. How can you show appreciation to someone who mentors or helps you?