

TOOL

A Cloze Script for the Legacy Question



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Purpose

This tool helps guide a reflective, emotionally resonant conversation that helps a client reconnect to their purpose and impact.

When to Use

Use this script when a client feels stuck, discouraged, or disconnected from a student—or when you want to shift the conversation from frustration to empathy, possibility, and long-term impact.

How to Use It

Follow the script as a guide, pausing where indicated and allowing space for reflection. Adapt the language to feel authentic to you while maintaining the overall structure and pacing to preserve its impact.



A Cloze Script for the Legacy Question

Coach: I want to ask you to call to mind a student who is struggling, a student in whom you see some potential, and that you care about. [Pause] Can you tell me about that student? What's their name? What do you appreciate about them? What are they struggling with?

Allow the client to describe the student. If necessary, ask clarifying and probing questions to elicit the student's strengths and positive attributes. Be sure that the client's empathy for the student is activated.

Coach: Ok, ____, [client's name] I want you to imagine something. I want you to imagine that it's _____ years [as many years until the student graduates from high school] from now, and you get an email from _____ [student's name]. [Pause] And ___ [student] says, 'I don't know if you'll remember me, _____, [teacher's name] but you were my _____ [grade or subject] teacher. And I'm graduating from high school next month and I wanted to invite you. I know you're probably super busy and maybe you have bad memories of me, but I'd be honored if you were there.' [PAUSE]

And you're not sure if you can go, but at the last minute you decide to go, and when you get there you end up sitting right behind ___ [his/her/their] family. When _____ [student's name] crosses the stage, looking so mature in that cap and gown, and when ___ [he/she/they] looks at ___ [his/her/their] family, they're cheering and screaming ___ [student's] name, _____ [student's name] also sees you. And a huge smile spreads across _____ [his/her/their] face. [PAUSE FOR 5-10 SECONDS]

Now, when ___ [student] goes back to ___ [his/her/their] seat, and after the ceremony is over, what do you want _____ [him/her/them] to say to their friends about you? About how ___ [he/she/they] remembers you as their _____ [grade level/subject] teacher?

[PAUSE FOR 2 SECONDS] How do you want to be remembered?

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