

Mentoring Matters: A Practical Guide to Learning-Focused Relationships

Video Exercise Inquiry: The Invitation

Effective inquiries invite respondents to articulate their thinking, explore ideas, and consider possibilities. A blend of tonal and syntactical components shapes these inquiries and communicate a belief in the speaker's capacity, readiness and willingness to think out loud.

A template for constructing invitational inquiries offers three interchangeable elements:

- an invitation to engage
- a cognitive focus
- a topic

The invitation has six elements:

- attending fully
- approachable voice
- use of plurals
- exploratory language
- positive presuppositions
- non-dichotomous stems

SCAFFOLD:

The Invitation

Some syntactical substitutions.

Try replacing...		
The	with	some
Is/are	with	seems
Can/could	with	might
Why	with	what/how

Some Stems to Convey Positive Presuppositions

Given your knowledge of . . .

Based on your experience with . . .

As you reflect on . . .

Directions:

1. Listen to the video.* Generate a paraphrase.
2. Listen again. Generate several inquiries, varying the cognitive process.
3. Be sure to edit your inquiries for elements of the invitation.

E.g., What are some ways you would compare these two assignments? How might you sequence the instruction to support student success?

*Download video at: www.miravia.com/resources/mm-video-exercises