

Replying to Your Mentor

You will get the most out of eMentors if you write smart, thoughtful replies to your mentor. Remember, just like in a spoken conversation, it works best if both sides ask and respond to questions. Take a look at the three strategies below. Make sure that you are doing all three in every message you send to your mentor. You can read through example student messages to see these strategies in action.

- **React** to their story

Make comments and questions about their personal history and other thoughts they shared with you. You can also answer any questions they had for you.

- **Respond** to the prompt

Answer the questions that are provided to you in the week's topic. Expand on your answers and give details.

- **Wrap Up** with a question

Finish your message with at least one question that you have for your mentor based on what they wrote, or the week's topic. You can also incorporate questions into other paragraphs in your message.

Reply #1

Hi Stephanie,

Thank you for your message! I am excited to partner with you, too! My favorite class is probably Algebra. I really like how there's always a right answer in math. We're learning how to solve equations right now. Do you have to do any math in your job? Overall, I think school is just okay. I like some of my classes (like math) and I like hanging out with my friends, but sometimes it's boring. What was your favorite year in high school? Why?

I think your job sounds interesting. It's cool that you get to come up with the design that goes on the Fruit Roll-Up boxes. I think it's crazy that you spend so much time thinking about what color the font should be! Do you have to be good at drawing in your job? Are you the person that actually makes the pictures?

I'm really looking forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,
Matt

Reply #2

Hi Stephanie,

I'm glad you're doing well! Thank you for answering my questions about your job. I think marketing might be something I'm interested in. It's funny that we both think science is confusing! I wish we could just download information directly into our brains. What did you think was the hardest subject in school?

When I'm not in class, I spend my time doing homework, playing basketball, and hanging out with my friends. I play center for our school's 9th grade team. We're actually pretty good and we win most of our games. I'm really good at trick shots, too. Other than that, I watch movies and play video games with my friends. My favorite video game is Fortnite. Do you play video games? You asked me what my favorite movie was. It's probably The Fast and The Furious. Do you like action movies?

Sincerely,
Matt

Reply #3

Hi Stephanie,

Thank you for your message! I also really like Die Hard! I haven't seen any of the sequels, though. Are they any good? I can't think of any movies I plan on seeing anytime soon. I mostly watch movies on Netflix and sometimes Amazon Prime. I think I'm going to check out that Jack Ryan series on Amazon soon.

As far as jobs go, I'm not totally sure what I want to do. I like basketball, so maybe a coach? My dream job would be if I worked for the Miami Heat. They're my favorite team and I would do literally anything for them. It's interesting that you wanted to be a writer when you were my age. Do you still write? What made you decide to do the job you have now?

Sincerely,
Matt