



Read the following text. Then do the exercises below.

A NEW BEGINNING

Hi, my name is Jake, and I want to share how a social worker changed my life. A year ago, I was struggling at school, feeling alone and at risk of exclusion. I didn't have anyone to talk to about my problems, and it seemed like nobody cared. That's when Mr. Rodriguez, a social worker, entered my life.

Mr. Rodriguez listened to me without judging and helped me see things differently. He understood my struggles and worked with me to find solutions. With his support, I began to believe in myself again. He encouraged me to join after-school programs that focused on my interests, like art and sports.

One of the best things Mr. Rodriguez did was connect me with a mentor. This mentor became like a big brother to me, guiding me through tough times and celebrating my achievements. Thanks to these positive influences, I started doing better in school, making friends, and feeling more confident.

Now, I can proudly say that I am not the same person I was a year ago. Mr. Rodriguez showed me that there are people who care and are willing to help. I am grateful for the second chance he gave me, and I am excited about my future.

**struggles: dificultades*

**to seem: parecer*

**tough: duro, difícil*

**willing to: dispuesto a*

Activity 1. Read the following sentences and say if they are *true* or *false* according to the information in the text:

1. Jake was having a difficult time at school last year
2. Mr. Rodríguez is a teacher at Jake's school
3. Jake had a lot of friends before meeting Mr. Rodriguez.
4. Mr. Rodriguez judged Jake for his struggles.
5. The mentor introduced to Jake became like a member of his family.

Activity 2. Read the following questions and choose the correct answer based on the text.

1. What was Jake struggling with a year ago?
 - a. Making too many friends
 - b. Feeling alone and at risk of exclusion
 - c. Doing bad in all subjects

2. What did Mr. Rodriguez do to help Jake?
 - a. Listened without judging
 - b. Criticized and judged him
 - c. Made him join more after-school programs
3. What positive influences did Jake gain from Mr. Rodriguez's help?
 - a. More struggles and problems
 - b. A disconnection from after-school activities
 - c. Improved academic performance and more confidence
4. Who became like a big brother to Jake?
 - a. Mr. Rodriguez
 - b. The mentor introduced by Mr. Rodriguez
 - c. Jake's new friends from school
5. How does Jake feel about his future now?
 - a. Excited
 - b. Uncertain
 - c. Anxious