

Worksheet 13: Advanced Reading - Leadership Under Pressure

Analyze claims, evidence, inference, and tone.

Passage

A leader is tested most clearly when the plan stops working. During a routine task, confidence can look easy because the instructions are predictable. During pressure, however, a leader has to slow the group down enough to think while still moving fast enough to act. Good leaders ask short, clear questions: What changed? What do we know? What is the safest next step? They do not ignore mistakes, but they also do not waste time humiliating people for them. The best teams improve because someone is willing to be honest, organized, and calm at the same time. In that sense, leadership is less about control and more about creating the conditions where others can do their jobs well.

1. What is the author's central claim about leadership?

2. Identify two details from the passage that support the central claim.

3. What can you infer about leaders who humiliate people for mistakes?

4. Explain the meaning of: "slow the group down enough to think while still moving fast enough to act."

5. What is the tone of the passage: critical, humorous, instructional, or angry? Defend your answer.

Extra workspace / final response:

Written Analysis

6. Write a paragraph explaining whether you agree that leadership is more about creating conditions than having control. Use an example.

7. Create one discussion question based on the passage that would require more than a yes/no answer.

Extra workspace / final response:
