

## What to do when teens have no homework

Adapted from tutor John Reece's powerpoint presentation

**Important Goals for Learning:** Use your knowledge of your student's interests to guide your selection of activities (for example: music, sports, politics). Let student choose whenever possible. Activities should also have at least one of the following learning goals as an objective:

- Problem Solving Skills
- Communication Skills
- Value of Diversity
- Value of Student's Views
- Student Becomes Teacher

### Sample Activities:

- Mock Trial
  - Create a conflict scenario/ask student(s) to create one
  - Assign roles
  - Let students have fun, minimum guidance
- Current Events Debate
  - Bring in a newspaper clipping or web link
  - Students share their opinions
  - Differences between opinions/feelings and facts
  - Diversity of points of view
  - Avoid imposing tutor's opinion
- Cost of Ownership Exercise
  - "How much does it cost to own a new car?"
  - Look beyond sticker price
- Logic Puzzles
- Share stories or anecdotes that illustrate the history you have experienced
  - How have your experiences shaped your POV?
  - Has your POV (your own contexts/identity: race, gender, sexuality, class, etc.) influenced the way you experienced something?
- Research a 'moment in history,' a person, or a place student is interested in
  - Cause and effect
  - Past vs. present
  - Different groups view history differently (victor vs. vanquished)

### Summary:

- Your goal is to teach students to solve problems
- Remember your student(s) wants and needs
- Celebrate diversity and innovative thinking
- Share your experiences
- Share your ideas, successes, and stumbles with your fellow tutors
- Give your student(s) a voice
- Embrace the idea of learning from your student(s)
- Have fun