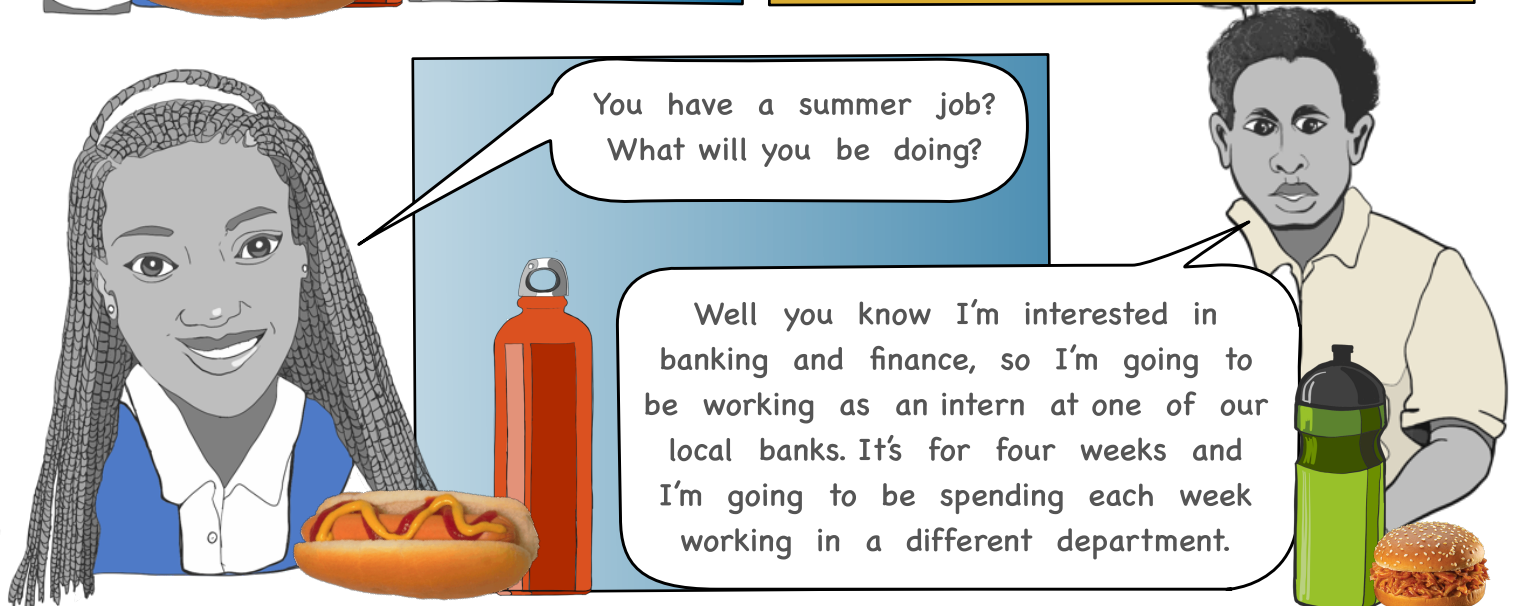


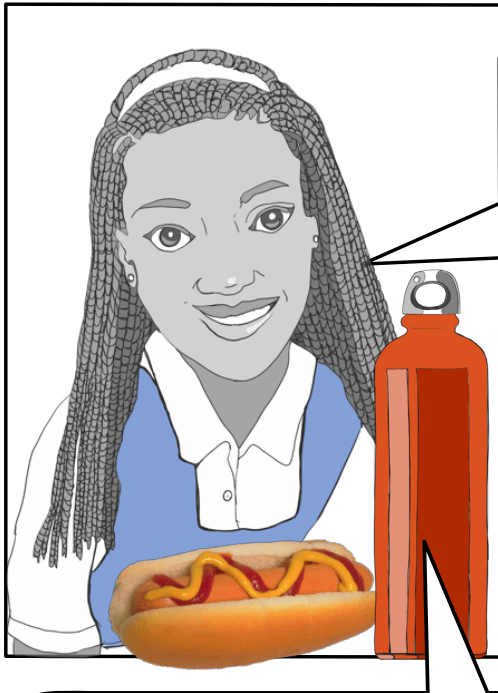
Let's Talk... CAREER

It's after school and two fifth form students are discussing their plans for summer.

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Mentorship





That sounds interesting and it's a great way to get some early work experience. How did you find out about it?

My mentor at church helped me find it.

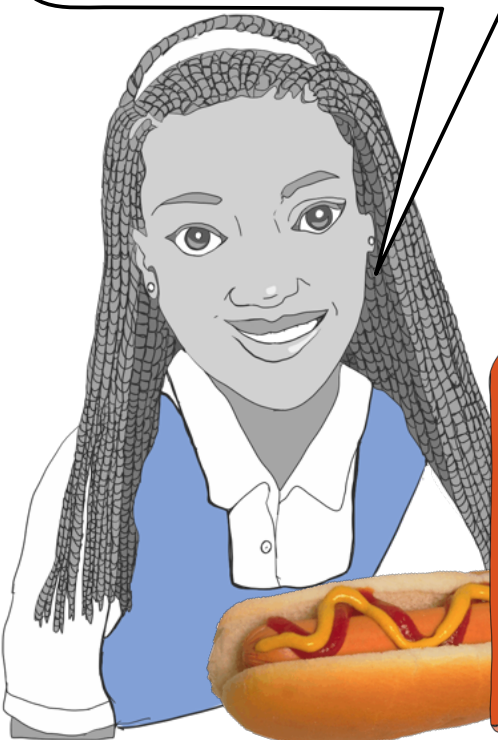


A mentor is someone older and more experienced, who acts as a counsellor? Giving advice and helpful tips?

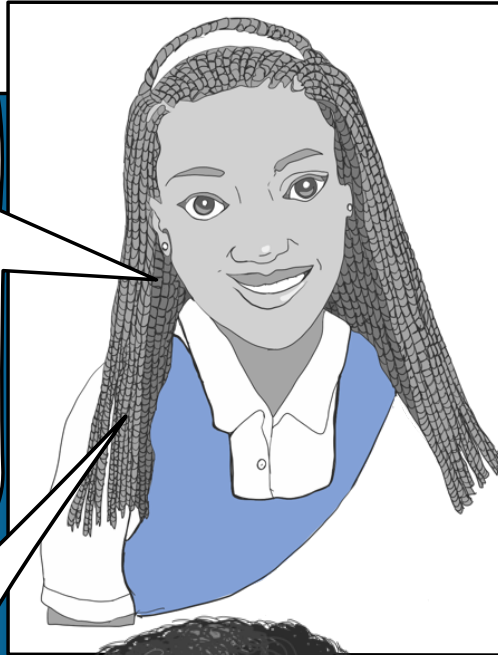
Yes. This person should be someone who you can trust and respect, and also feel comfortable talking to.

That makes sense. Most people use mentors for work right?

Well if you mean professionally, then yes. So for example, as an intern, they might pair me with an older, well-connected employee, who I'd meet with maybe once a week and who would help me to settle in and show me the ropes.

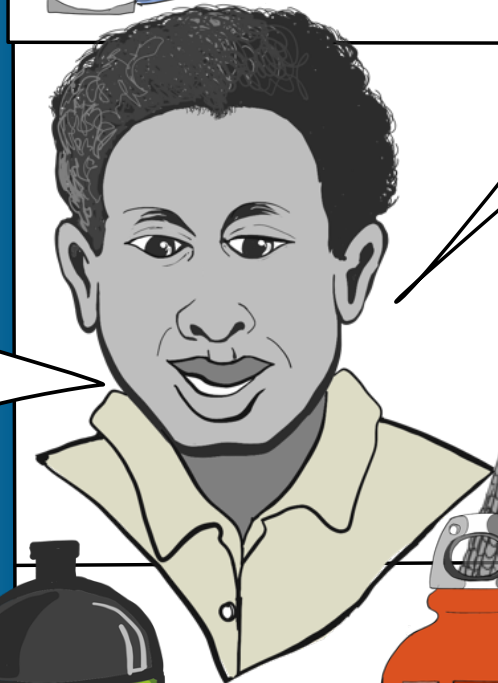


Yes that sounds familiar. My older sister just left university and I think she has a mentor who's helping her figure out her employment options and also helping her meet other, more established professionals in her industry.

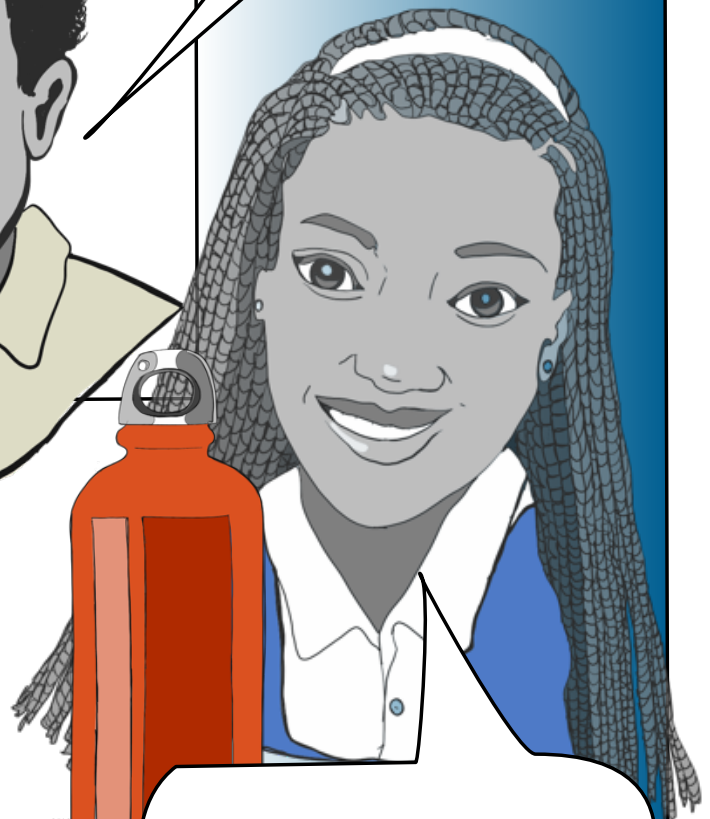


That was a wise decision she made. However, even though most people use mentoring in a professional sense, they can be used for any reason. So if I was an athlete just starting out, I would want to have a mentor like Usain Bolt to show me how I can improve and be the best.

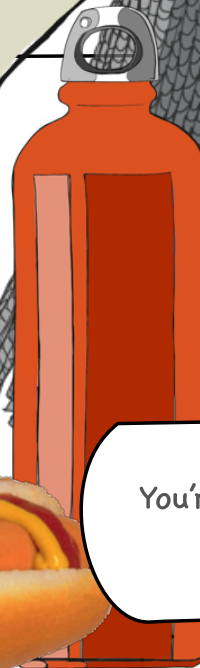
Bolt! Aren't you ambitious! But I see what you mean.

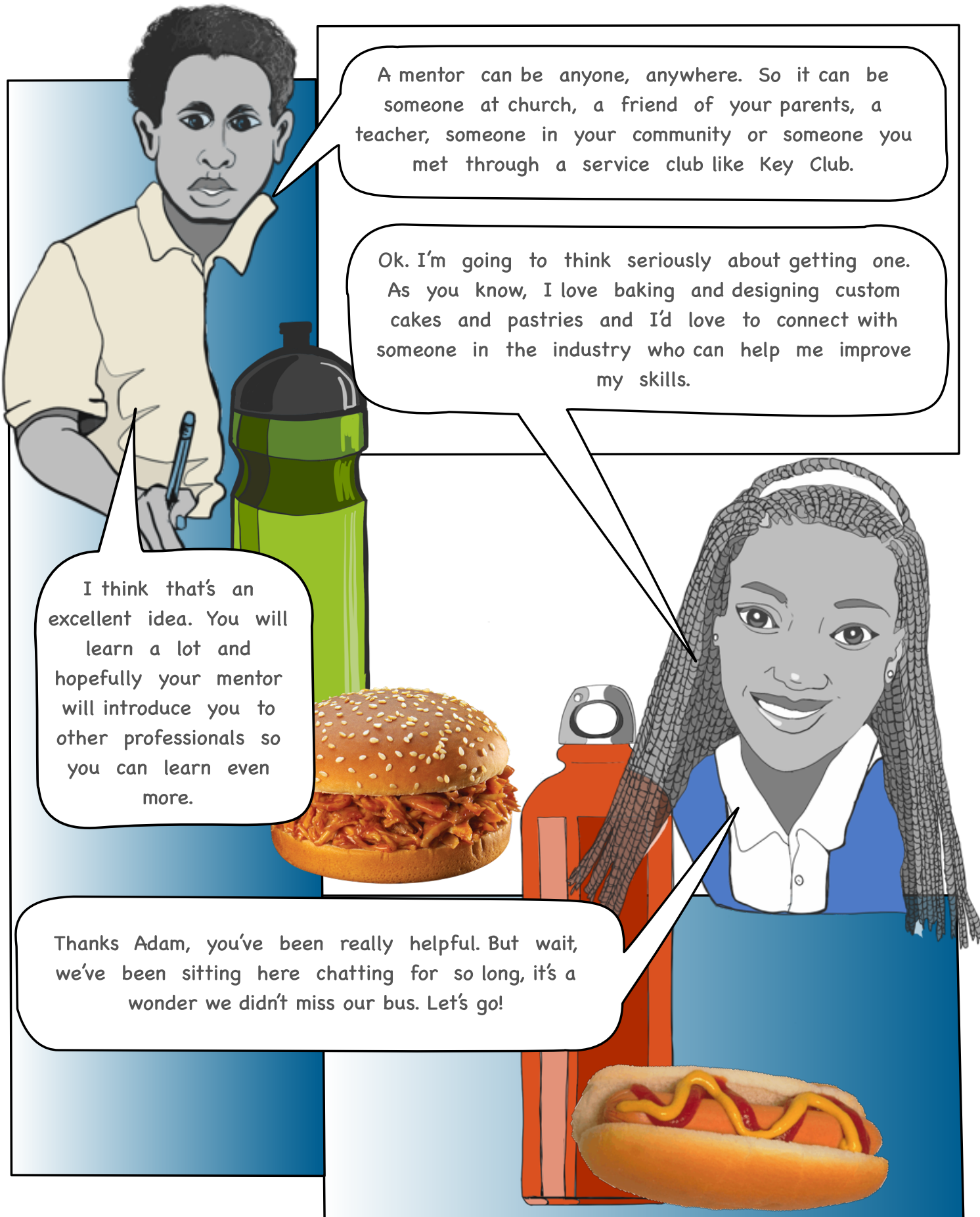


But of course! Remember your mentor should be someone successful and well experienced in whatever it is you want to be mentored in.



You're right. So how do I find a mentor?





A mentor can be anyone, anywhere. So it can be someone at church, a friend of your parents, a teacher, someone in your community or someone you met through a service club like Key Club.

Ok. I'm going to think seriously about getting one. As you know, I love baking and designing custom cakes and pastries and I'd love to connect with someone in the industry who can help me improve my skills.

I think that's an excellent idea. You will learn a lot and hopefully your mentor will introduce you to other professionals so you can learn even more.

Thanks Adam, you've been really helpful. But wait, we've been sitting here chatting for so long, it's a wonder we didn't miss our bus. Let's go!

