

Mentor

mentor \MEN-tor or MEN-ter\
(noun)

1. capitalized: a friend of Odysseus entrusted with the education of Odysseus' son Telemachus **2.*** : a trusted counselor or guide b: tutor, coach

Example sentence:

Ms. Ryan was the sort of selfless, dedicated mentor that every high school graduate recalls with great fondness.

Did you know?

We acquired "mentor" from the literature of ancient Greece.

In Homer's epic "The Odyssey", Odysseus was away from home fighting and journeying for 20 years. During that time, Telemachus, the son he left as a babe in arms, grew up under the supervision of **Mentor, an old and trusted friend**. When the goddess Athena decided it was time to complete the education of young Telemachus, she visited him disguised as Mentor and they set out together to learn about his father.

Today, we use the word "**mentor**" for anyone who is a positive, guiding influence in another (usually younger) person's life.

* Indicates the sense illustrated in the example sentence.