Listen Closely

Purpose: This activity will challenge assumptions and listening skills of participants by hearing a story than answering questions about the events of that story.

Activity Duration: 15 minutes

Materials Needed:
- Have story below ready to be read to the group out loud.
- Pencils/Paper

Activity:
- Give mentors and students a blank sheet of paper to take notes and/or answer post-story questions.
- Announce you will be reading a short story and then will ask questions about the story details afterwards.
- Read the story below, ask the questions listed after and give everyone a minute to write down their answers.
- When finished with all questions, go back and answer the questions as a group while re-reading parts of the story for clarification.

The Story
A long and extremely busy day for you came to an end with a stop at the 52-flavors ice cream shop where you often hangout with friends. Just as the last of the ice bowls was being washed and put away, and just before the “closed” sign was put on the door, a person rushed in and shouted ‘where’s the money, give me all the money!’ The register was quickly opened and the owner removed money from inside the register. After the day’s receipts were gathered, the person drove off. A few minutes later police showed up at the ice cream shop.

Who rushed in and demanded money? (‘a person’, story does not indicate any more)

Who opened the register? (the story does not say, it only states the register was quickly opened)

Who gathered the day’s receipts? (story does not indicate)

Who put the “closed” sign on the door? (No one, the sign was not yet placed on the door)

Was this a robbery? (We do not know. The person demanding the money may have worked with the ice-cream shop and the police showing up could have been a coincidence)