Video Transcript
Handling Unexpected Segues

Interviewee: We decided that we wanted to do an experiment to see the greenhouse effect actually happening right in front of our very own eyes. *[Cross talk 00:18]*.

Interviewer: I think when you're teaching, there's always the unexpected comment.

Interviewee: Diagram—who would like to tell us? What should we draw, just briefly and quickly, in our eggs, or shall I say, earth system? What are the two different bottles gonna look like? Who would like to tell us? Only if you're in those groups—Noel, is this your group?

Interviewee: No, but I have a statement.

Interviewee: Okay. What's your statement?

Interviewee: If we say that the plant will absorb the CO2, we'll be talking about the plant with the CO2 because that plant only is this plant, but it doesn't say plant plus CO2.

Interviewer: There is the unexpected question that even as a teacher, you don't know the answer to.

Interviewee: Here begs the question. Why are we doing this one, this one, and this one? Are they different? Are they similar? Are we just wasting time?

Interviewer: I find that it's important for me to be transparent with the students to say, "I don't know," or to say, "Well, let's talk about this a little."

Interviewee: Why do we choose to do all three? This is the critical thinking, boys and girls. This is where we're gonna take our thinking to that higher level, and I don't have the answer for you, but I want you to look at these different situations and tell me what's the point of doing them all? That's *[cross talk 01:41]*.

Interviewer: What I try to do is I acknowledge their questions, and if I feel it's valuable, we'll take a little segue and we'll go there, and

with Noel's case, we did go there because he had a very, very good point.

Interviewee: You had a problem with my hypothesis? Well, I'm glad you had the courage to tell me. His problem was with this word, because this word—would that go here and here, so what should I say? The plant—the bottle with the plant will be cooler because—

Interviewee: The bottle with the plant will be cooler because the plant will absorb the CO2 in the normal atmosphere.

Interviewee: Fantastic. Thank you, Noel, for that distinction. Okay. That really, really helps. We were at the point with the eggs.

Interviewer: You can't stick to what you planned word for word. It changes and morphs all the time, and you kind of have just this sense of what would be the right way to go.

Interviewee: Let's go.

[End of audio]

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