**Balancing it All: Olatunde’s Dilemma**

Olatunde is a young Nigerian raised by a single parent. He is also the firstborn out of four siblings, a first-class graduate from a top Nigerian university, and currently the breadwinner of his family. Everyone in his family looks up to him for financial support and assistance. He has just resumed his Master's Degree at a University in the UK. He is currently struggling to understand the academic writing style in the UK and has just received his first essay feedback from his lecturer, in which he scored 60% out of a 100. That was not good enough for him, as he has always been an A student back home in Nigeria and thus has set the target to graduate with a distinction, which starts from 70% in the UK. Olatunde is feeling frustrated about this and at the same time, the fact that he has to work part-time to be able to send money home and cover some of his bills in the UK worries him even more. This means that he has less time to study and prepare for his assessments. Likewise, the pressure from home is getting too much and all of this is causing him great anxiety and sleeplessness. He has just been recently matched with a mentor named “Claire” who is from Scotland at his University and he narrated all of these experiences during their first meeting. Claire has no idea on what to do or how to advise Olatunde. Where does she start? This situation is kind of new to her. Claire is trying to find ways to better guide Olatunde and to ensure he has a great academic and university experience.

**Case Issues**

* Black Tax
* Academic Challenges and Transition
* Academic & Work-Life Balance

**Possible Guiding Questions**

* How would you respond to all the issues Olatunde has raised? Which one would you prioritise?
* What advice would you give to Olatunde to help him tackle the challenges of Black Tax and the pressure he is receiving from his family, while dealing with his academic struggle?
* What resources can you point to Olatunde to help him deal with the challenges he is facing around black tax, academics and work-life balance? Where do you think he can access those resources or help?