Answers to Exercise 5.3

Providing Examples of Self-Efficacy

1. What is the relationship between stories and developing a sense of efficacy?

The concept of overcoming formidable odds to achieve a goal might be quite foreign to some students, particularly those who have spent years operating from a fixed-theory perspective. In such cases, students probably need concrete examples of the power of efficacy. Stories provide those concrete examples.

2. How might quotations be used in ways that stories cannot be easily used?

Since quotations require very little class time, they can be used quite frequently as a brief reminder of the power of a strong sense of efficacy. Additionally, they frequently stimulate students to research the context in which the quotes were stated.

3. What are stories from your own life or lives of people close to you that might inspire efficacy in students?

Answers will vary.