

## Themes from our Notes and Letters

### Your Quotes

#### **Creativity**

The Head Teacher was creative in that he made the school as one family where teachers and students related well without any hindrance. Learners brought solution for few meals by growing some crops in school. *[Case Study – New White House Academy, Kenya]*

#### **Freedom**

Learners are free to engage with the teacher, i.e. they can even complain of less food. This is not common in most schools, especially here in Dadaab. *[Case Study – New White House Academy, Kenya]*

#### **Responsibility**

The Head Teacher shows responsibility by engaging everyone and does not impose. He even goes to homes to talk to parents about their children's progress. *[Case Study – New White House Academy, Kenya]*

#### **Leadership**

He (the Head Teacher) provides opportunity to distribute and use little resources equally. The office of the Head Teacher was open to everyone. *[Case Study – New White House Academy, Kenya]*

We should allow learners imaginative abilities and creative and critical thinking to develop cognitive abilities.

Education cannot solve a conflict on its own, however, teachers and students need to develop a critical understanding of emotions to prevent negative emotions, thus encouraging tolerance, respect, compassion and nonviolence [attitude].

#### **Connections to Our Experience**

What you mentioned in your [Freire] letter, was reflecting the real-life experience in Dadaab. What has happened in Aleppo has [also] been experienced by the students and teachers.

Despite the critical conditions we have witnessed, we are still ready to continue teaching our students because we want to transform them with knowledge so that they can be the future leaders of their respective nations.

Freire has really defined "fear" from different perspective, and not only explained in relation to education, but also the effect it has to students' efforts.

Being a refugee is not an option, but a circumstance.  
[fear] should not paralyze us

Paulo Freire has really awakened our critical thinking as teachers.

### **Gems from poems**

A problem shared is a problem half solved

A human being is a better dictionary

Instead express by re-reading or struggle through re-writing.

I should embrace it [fear]