VIVA UMUEZE

*Being a professional: Where can education take place? Is it limited to the classroom? Listen to teacher Florence’s plans for her class.*

SFX: MOTOR PARK AND MARKET AMBIENCE

LINUS: Is that not Florence? (calls) Florence! Florence!

SFX: FOOTSTEPS ARRIVE

FLORENCE: Good afternoon, Mr Linus.

LINUS: Florence! What is good in this afternoon?

FLORENCE: Hope no problem Mr Linus?

LINUS: It is you who is my problem!

FLORENCE: Mr. Linus, I think there is a mistake here, sir

LINUS: You will soon understand, just answer my questions one after the other. One, did you give letter to my daughter Ngozi or not?

FLORENCE: I don’t understand sir.
LINUS: How will you say that you don’t understand when you send letter to ask for my money that I sweat for to carry all the children to jamboree?

FLORENCE: Oh, I see, but sir it is not as...

LINUS: (Cutting in) see, I am not sending my daughter Ngozi to school so that she can be travelling on jamboree. You hear?

FLORENCE: (placating) sir, I just felt that it will be good if the children can travel on excursion to...

LINUS: (cuts in) Let me tell you, I have no money to waste on travel. I send my child to school to learn book, not to be going about walking like somebody who has eaten dog leg before! If you can’t teach her book like other teachers, I will withdraw her, simple.

FLORENCE: Ah! I am sorry sir. Please don’t withdraw her because of this. I will drop the idea.

LINUS: Now you’re talking like somebody with sense.

FLORENCE: Thank you sir. It’s just that they will miss this festival I wanted them to witness in Umueze. It will properly help them assimilate the topic I taught them in social studies some few days back about culture. I have to go now Mr. Linus. Bye sir.

SFX: FLORENCE MAKES TO GO.

LINUS: Wait Florence! Where did you say you want to
take them?

FLORENCE: One town called Umueze for the new yam festival...

LINUS: (Excited) Chineke, obodo m, Umueze is my village!

FLORENCE: What is it Mr. Linus?

LINUS: I approve! Take her! Take them! Which day will you want to go? I will try and find the money to pay for Ngozi... and even escort you, I mean, I will be your guide!

FLORENCE: I don’t understand, Mr Linus...

LINUS: My mother is from Umueze and the chief priest in the festival is my uncle!

END

What did teacher Florence learn from this incident? What could she have done to get all the parents (on her side) support for the class trip?