TESOL #2 Essay

- Classroom Management

66th TESOL

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What is classroom management? It is to “Create the conditions in which learning can take place.” One of the most critical aspects of teaching is managing the classroom's environment so that it is a comfortable space in which to teach and learn. Therefore, we need to know how to plan and run activities and deal with unexpected problems. If not, it is easy to have a trouble with classroom management. There are three different problems which are dealt with. How can I deal with effectively?

Firstly, if I’m working at an institution which has a very strict, “English Only” policy, how can I implement and enforce the policy? I think there are two ways to make students obey the rule. One way is to make a “Assistant teacher.” Assistant teacher will monitor the class and help students use only English. Also, the teacher will encourage students to try to use English with friendly advice. If someone who has a trouble with using English, whole class students and assistant teacher should take care of him or her. Because, once someone break the rule, it is easy for all students not to use English. Another way is that students themselves make rules and sign. The rule is about how to handle the person who doesn’t speak English. The sign made by students will be attached in the classroom. For example, students make a sign, “No Korean, Only English” like this. It should be prominently displayed. This sign is to alert students to obey the rules. Students will be motivated by student’s own making and feel that they are responsible for their own decision.

Secondly, it’s about frequent tardiness and frequent absences in the classroom. When I was high school student, students were frequently late for school rather than absence. Tardiness made other students’ atmosphere distract. My homeroom teacher made a rule. If someone is late for school, the person should pay a fine of 500 won per 10 minutes. The rule was very strict. We elected one student as a captain in charge of tardiness. The student recorded the exact time in the morning. All students followed the rule and paid fine. The money collected by fine was used to have a party. Also, those who were late for school should clean classroom and got punished in the playground. I think it was very helpful but there were some trouble between captain and the students who were late. It may be sensitive because of money. It would be better if we use some goods. For those who are not late for school, teacher gives some goods one day randomly. And students who are late get detention as time they were late.

Finally, I have to help my students prepare for any lesson presentations they need to do. If someone didn’t prepare a presentation, it may be my fault. Maybe I didn’t give enough ICQs, chunk instructions or demonstration. I have to make students understand the assignment correctly. When I was 15, my homeroom teacher, English teacher, always let the students know the homework before we go home. It was very helpful for us to remember the homework. If one student has a personal presentation, she reminded the student of the turn. One way is that teacher gives chunk instruction to understand students better. In addition, teacher has to use instruction concept questions. By using ICQs, teacher can check whether students understand or not. I thought another convenient and useful way. One of the most commonly used tools in today’s society is mobile phone. Most students use mobile phone. By using text message, we can notice something important and required. In addition, I can give a feedback when the student has any questions.

Many disruptive behaviors in the classroom can be reduced by establishing a set of classroom rules to guide the behavior of students. Discuss the rationale of these rules with the students to ensure they understand and see the need for each rule. The rules most often involve paying attention, respect for others, and completion of assignments. Teachers must be firm in implementing these rules yet still be supportive and friendly with students. A firm teacher can provide an environment where the students feel comfortable. It may be difficult for teachers to deal with these problems perfectly. However, what works best for teachers and students is still what we should do.