How to make students to be on time in class

TESOL Module 3. Assignment #2: Classroom management assignment

Sunny/ Class no. 70

Tardiness of a student becomes problematic in many classes. Students who are often late or absent in classes fall behind in study; which declines students’ achievement and motivation. Tardy students could lead bad influence not just to themselves, but also to teachers and classes too. No smokes without fire, there is a reason for this behaviour. I had my life time experience trying to break this habit of being late and absent and examining why I get late all the time. Telling those students to be on time would not work for such a chronic and habitual unpunctuality. Referring back to the knowledge I gained through that time- and present, I will discuss some possible solutions regarding class management to reduce the tendency of tardiness and absence of students.

One of reasons of tardiness that we could think of is that students do not prioritise the class highly enough. To make those considering learning in low priority, stricter rule setting on punctuality could be effective. Assuming that they intend to take a course and still want a successful study, it is obvious them to be afraid of failing. Or say if the class does not start unless all the students are gathered, students will be afraid of coming late; this could build intense responsibility to fellow students. Strict rules on punctuality stimulate fear of failure. The ones in Times Media TESOL course, is an appropriate example, which actually worked to push me a little bit harder into the timeline fitting. Making the class in high priority is important since it conjugates with students’ motivation in study, too. Beyond the terms “Engaging” students into the class, “Committing” the class to students is crucial.

Methodologically, strict rules can catalyse behaviour modification in punctuation issue; however; this method could have side effects. As it is wholly upon the mechanism of students’ fear of failure, it would discourage some students with sensitivity. This is other reason of students’ tardiness; when the class is overwhelming and a student thinks he cannot make it anyhow, he tends to avoid the situation that he will struggle. Procrastination is one of natural and unconscious action when a person takes too much pressure from tasks or responsibility. In which case, we need a psychological aid in teacher and student interaction to ease stress in class. Make a comfortable learning environment where no one is going to scold for not doing well. Convince students not to be ashamed of not knowing something. Convince them that we study because we are not an expert to it, and we learn from our mistakes. Rearrange the class with many small and fun activities continuously, and courage student that they can afford these tasks. If students build up in confidence and they enjoy being in a class, their pressure will be released which in return the procrastination will also cease.

To be honest, I still find difficulty to be on time. I made lots of late arrival slips when I was in high school, and I received attendance notice in the tertiary courses. But I still believe it is possible to modify behaviours of a person when the reasons behind it are understood, and the need for change is perceived. What I needed to conquer my habit of tardiness was a helper, not a scold. Teachers with respectful manner, not discouraging student, will have relationship in trust. And I think it’s ideal for many young learners too.