TESOL Module 3

Assignment#2 : Classroom Management Assignment

**Unexpected Problems in classroom**

Young (Seo, Young Ae)

Before taking this TESOL class, I was lack of confident to teach students even though I decided to become a teacher. But I have learned many different teaching skills from this TESOL course since the first class on Feb. 11th. I was particularly worried about how to deal with a range of unexpected problems in classroom, but the class discussion with other students in my class helped me to have some ideas to deal with the problems. I would like to discuss of three majors issues of the unexpected problems in the classroom as below for adults and children learners.

**Your institution has a very strict, “English Only” policy. They are relying on you to implement and enforce this rule. How are going to go about it?**

The “English Only” policy is necessary for students who want to improve their English in the school environment, but sometime the students forget to speak English only because it is not their mother tongue. For Kids, a positive award and punishment will be worked. A teacher encourages the students who speak English only and gives a small award like a candy and chocolate the end of the class or semester. But if students speak Korean, a teacher orders the students repeat the sentence “I will not speak Korean in this classroom” 10 times in front of other students. The students reflect on their conducts and other students recall the policy “English Only” again.

Adult students well know the motivations and challenge of “English Only” policy to improve their English, but sometime they are easy to ignore it or they just are used to speak in Korea. For the policy I would like to prefer to give penalties them such as Money jar or Can. The students monitor each other to point out someone who speaks Korean like a fun game. It helps to cheer up each other to speak English. The end of the class they will celebrate to finish the course and hold the party with the money from the jar.

**How will you as a teacher enforce frequent tardiness and frequent absences in the classroom?**

The frequent tardiness and absences behavior disturbs student’s study during the entire class. It is important to encourage students to be on time in the classroom. For young students, the attendance wall chart would be useful to challenge them. Each day put on various cute cartoon characters such as Pororo and Disney cartoon characters. The chart shows their attendance obviously and gives motivation to students. The end of the semester, the students will be awarded a small gift like candy and chocolate for perfect attendance. The good attendance performance could be requested the aid of parents. If the students are frequently late and absent, I would better report the parents to help students be on time.

However, the adult students are different from the kids. They well know why they should be in class on time, but sometime they just ignore it. So a positive punishment is a better solution to enforce the students. The Time Media TESOL attendance policy for students is very strict, but also is a good example. If you are 1-10 minutes late to class, will be marked “Late” and more than 10 minutes late, will be marked “absent”. Also two absents will be failed the course. Due to the policy, I could not see any late students in my class.

**How will you help your students prepare for any lesson presentations that they may need to do throughout the school year.**

When I had an ELS course at Hunter College, I had to prepare the presentation about “Lost in Yonkers” by Neil Simon. But I did not have any idea of American Theater, so I had a hard time to research. I was a shy student and embarrassed to ask the teacher about the play. She read on my confuse face and handed out the various materials of the play such as interview articles, books and even the video tape which was the stage version of “Lost in Yonkers”. Throughout the different materials I successfully finished my presentation. I believe that giving plenty of resources to prepare students to prepare for lesson presentations is a significant key for the adult students to understand the class better. But for children it is a good idea to assign groups to help each others. The group should be mixed-level students, so a smart student will help other students and leads the group. The group works are solidified their friendship and could be learned each other.

In conclusion I realize the unexpected problems in the classroom are solved with well prepared class management and good behavior of students. For “English Only” policy, a teacher needs to keep challenging and motivating student to speak English for their improving speaking skill. The frequent lateness and absences bother other student’s study. They should be improved through parents help and strict late and absent policy. Helping students prepare for lesson presentations that they may need to do throughout the school year is required teacher’s detailed consideration for students and group works. The group works provide intimacy between classmates and elicit self-motivation of students. Now I feel much better to deal with the unexpected problems in the class and I am sure I would be a well prepared teacher throughout this class.