TESOL 03: Classroom Management Assignment

90th WD EunheyJung(Grace)

7/17/2013

850 Words used

Enforcing Rules with Consistent Respect for the Students

‘It is a mistake to suppose that the whole issue is how to freeman. The issue is to improve the way in which he is controlled’ quoted by B.F Skinner.

There are lots of unexpected issues for dealing with students. It is mainly about teaching students the knowledge in the class, however, appropriate behavior following learning is more important. BF Skinner thought that Behaviorism is primarily concerned with observable behavior, as opposed to internal events like thinking and emotion. He introduced a term of the Law of effect-Reinforcement. Behavior which is reinforced tends to be repeated (i.e. strengthened); behavior which is not reinforced tends to die out-or extinguished (i.e. weakened). Dealing with problems with repeated implementation, enforcement and discipline of an institution’s policies help students to have a positive behavior. And we are going to see how we can deal with the following scenarios which may come unexpectedly.

First, if my institution has a very strict, “English Only” policy, it will be a good method to give students rewards. If students are beginners, it is hard to speak only in English for them, so it is emphasized to make them feel rewarded. We can reward students if a staff member hears them speaking English outside of class time, they may give them a “ticket” and write their names on it and put it in the jar in the director or teacher’s office. Each ticket is worth one point and displayed on the wall. Every week or month, there will be a prize drawing for the group or individual with the most tickets that week or month. The winning students will receive rewards for speaking English. And to enforce the policy, it should be stricter than rewarding system. The first time a teacher or staff member hears a student use a language other than English at school, the student will be issued a warning card and the violation will be recorded in the student’s file. For the second time, the students will be issued a 2nd warning card and director or teacher will choose their penalty, like writing an essay or giving a presentation on why speaking English is important. And loss of points for individual or a group is also an idea. Penalties for the 3rd warning card may include suspension or may even be terminated from the program.

Second problem is about enforcing frequent tardiness and absences in classroom management. Students need to understand the importance of being on time, not only in school but in their future life. Using a reward system is also a good way in this situation. This can be simple as giving extra hints before exams or warning of pop quizzes during the first minutes of class. It can also expand to more tangible rewards such as homework passes. The benefit of this is that students who are following the rewarded, hopefully reinforcing their positive behaviors. Making the beginning of the class important is another idea. Students need to understand that coming into class late can be affected on their grade. Prepared to begin class right on time and using Warm Ups and On Time Quizzes can have an impact and we can show that we control when class starts and how it begins. If teachers apply these policies or rules consistently, students will respect teachers and the policies more.

Last issue is about the way to help students prepare for any lesson presentations that they may need to do for the school year. As we learned from the Language and learning class, there are individual learning differences among students. For example, their learning strategies, sensory preferences, preferences for what content to work on during class and motivation are all different depend on each student. So teachers should try to help them as an ‘Enabler’. During the class, teachers activate working as a group, give students individual investigation assignments and home works. And use visual, auditory and tactile-kinesthetic method in the class so that various students can have a chance to improve their strength and weakness to plan for their lesson. Before preparing for the presentation, practicing group discussion, experiential learning and simple teaching or mentoring fellow students might be a great help for brainstorming. It is important to make sure they do their research and write up their presentation in advance, such as Activity route map. Knowing everything about presentation can reduce anxiety and help the student have self-confidence in their presentation abilities.

“I do not admire myself as a person. My successes do not override my shortcomings.” quoted by B.F Skinner

Teachers face lots of problems which may come unexpectedly and feel like fail the classroom management, however, as we learned in the class, it is important to admit that we have a weakness. The major influence on human behavior is learning from our environment. So if we try to show constant behavior with respect to students, they will learn new behaviors from us and learn how to modify their existing behavior.