Module Essay 2 126th WD Jinyi Lee (Jenny)

**The Importance of Classroom Managements**

“I don’t trust words. I trust action.”

When my parents decided to move to the states, they clearly knew that my brother and I had never encountered English so we would need all the help we could get. So twice a week after school, my mom would pick us up and drop us off at an English academy, where just like TESOL classes, we were assigned to a class depending on our English levels rather than our age. Unlike my elementary school, the instructor, Mrs. Thomas, was strict with how she managed the class and how she expected the students to follow her.

In Mrs. Thomas’ class, everyone had the same goal, which was to improve their English skills. Obviously thinking that you will only speak English is much easier than actually doing so. I am sure at many times during our discussion or free talking sessions, people wanted to speak in their first languages, as I did myself. But when some students made the mistake of actually doing so, Mrs. Thomas immediately put them on the spot and pointed out their mistake. Even if it wasn’t her intention to embarrass her students, her actions put the spotlight on the student being scolded. How she taught her class was somewhat effective because it got people to follow the rule of not speaking English, but I knew that that wasn’t how I wanted to be taught.

Even if it was over ten years ago, I still remember Mrs. Thomas telling us that attendance was a promise between herself and the students. Just like she came to the academy to teach us, it was our responsibility to be in our seats on time ready to learn. I agree with her on this, but yet for some people, getting to class on time seemed to be one of the most difficult things that they had to do. Some teacher would lock their doors or have other discipline rules for attendance, but Mrs. Thomas was different. If a student walked in late, she wouldn’t greet or acknowledge the student in anyway. The student then would have to quickly find a seat and follow along with the lesson. After class she would have a quick talk with the student and would make a call to the parents, which was not a very productive punishment.

I feel that Mrs. Thomas was one of the stricter teachers that I have had in the past. When I look back, the environment she had set for the class was an environment that I would never want to go back to. Even if it was a fun class, knowing that I could be yelled at for a simple mistake always made me feel nervous, and I am sure it was the same with the other students as well. As a teacher, I would simply warn the student in a gentler way, and if the same mistakes were made repeatedly, I would ask the student to join me in the hallway or after class for a chat. Also, I would constantly remind the students and encourage them to speak English and to be punctual. I would always make sure not to pick on students because I would never want to affect them negatively.

As the guidance in the classroom, teachers should consider setting a good example for the students as their most important job. To get to class early with the lessons all ready to go will show the students that the teacher is excited for the day, and it is important that throughout the lessons and activities, teachers continue to gently emphasize the important rules to follow in the classroom. But most importantly, I would make sure to guide the students in their mistakes for my role as a teacher would be to learn and grow with my students.