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2nd Essay Assignment

Feb. 21. 2012

Importance of Classroom Management

*“If you do what you’ve always done, you’ll get what you always got.”*

-Mark Twain

As what Jim Scrivener’s textbook describes, class management is an organizational set of skills to make classrooms run more smoothly and efficiently. It is very important an instructor creates the condition those students able to learn by encouraging students to participation in class, do assignment and attend class. Depends how these are well managed, the class could be lead to success.

“English Only” policy

The University that I attended nearby Boston, MA was very strict about speaking native language. Compare to other foreign students, numbers of Korean students were taking ESL course. So, the classroom environment, use of the native language was much easier for Korean students. Of course, the teacher always reminded us every morning, right before the class starts, “DO NOT SPEAK NATIVE LANGUAGE. ENGLISH ONLY”. And, also, students could see a big sign, “ENGLISH ONLY”, right next to the board. Once students start using their native language, the teacher gives us a warning. Students were allowed to use native language when a student did not understand after teacher’s few times explanations. Then, after couple of warnings, the deduction comes from the class participation afterwards. The extra assignment comes as well. Looking back on it now, the extra assignment was for make over the deduction.

Frequent tardiness and absences

The institution that I attended had very strict about tardiness and absences. Students were not allowed any tardiness or absences for classes unless students bring a note from the school nurse. Other than that, there were no excuses at all. Such like Times Media, three tardiness count as one absence, three absences make students to fail the class.

There was a student; his name is Ming, who always enters the class fifteen minutes later right before the teacher marks as absence. He was well-known as fifteen-minute guy among students. One day, I asked him why he comes in late then he said “the class is too boring. The teacher talks too much. I’ll take extra assignment rather than being in class”. It was very understandable for me and might be for others if their heard what he said. Maybe a teacher thought if TTT (Teacher Talk Time) is higher, students would be learn much quicker and more.

Help students prepare for any lesson presentation

Having presentation in front of other students in English is one of hardest part as a second language learner. I saw few students who do not care making mistakes when having presentation, but not for most of students. I was a student who had a very hard time making presentation in front of others. When I make presentation, I either speak too fast or repeat the sentence over again. To pass over, if I am an instructor, I will always check with students if understood the given topic properly and made student to write outlines. Then, before students make presentation in front of whole classroom, put students in pair-work at first, then three and more students together. It would be very uncomfortable but, then, every time students practice over and over, it would be much easier and feel comfortable than first time. If students are well-prepared and practice as much as they could, students will pass over the shyness.

Manage the classroom is very difficult for an instructor. Depends on how much an instructor put effort constantly and well-prepared, the class could be success or fail. Instead of trying to teach someone, why don’t you be a learner?