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**What Shall I do for my Students?**

There are three different scenarios which may happen in the classroom unexpectedly. Here’s how I would deal with them.

**English Only Policy.**

This policy has already been implemented at my place of work. Currently, I am working at an English language institution which has a very strict “English Only” policy. Most of the students at my institution ( I am going to call it a ‘school’ from now on) are elementary school students but I think that adults have something in common with young learners.

There are a few steps to get use to the policy. At the beginning, every new student looks nervous and uncomfortable because they don’t know how to think in an English way and also they are worried about making mistakes. It’s no wonder that they try to speak in Korean or they choose to say nothing. Thinking in an English way is not their habit yet.

A few months later, they start thinking in and speaking English. The students realize that conversation/communication is more important than being correct and precise. They get the idea that the more they try to use English, the more they can learn.

Some people don’t agree with this rule because they think speaking Korean would help when they are struggling. It may not be wrong but I am talking about which is better. The strict ‘English only’ policy is not an easy way but I think it is worth it. I strongly support it.

**Enforcing Frequent Tardiness and Absences.**

For young learners, frequent tardiness and absence doesn’t happen much because their parents look after them. If it happens, I can manage this problem by letting their parents know it. When I threaten to call my students’ parents, most of them change their behavior. At my school, we also offer rewards or punishments. The rewards could be movie tickets, coupons for drinks, some money, an occasional pizza party or less homework. The punishments could be giving more homework, or no money.

In the case of adult learners, giving rewards is not really an effective option. What I could do is remind them of their goals and the time and money which they have spent on learning English. Sometimes I can encourage them with my warm heart. However, most of them already know what they need to do to be successful.

**How can I help my Students ?**

There is no perfect teacher, like Jim Scrivener said, but I hope I can help my students a lot. I’ll prepare for my class with useful skills and try to give my students clear instructions. I’ll check that they understand it. I’ll try to keep the level of English at a challenging level as I believe that students can do more than they are aware of being able to do - and then I can help them to do it. I’ll give lots of opportunities to practice. I’ll trust my students and try not to over-help or over-organize them. I’ll try to get answers and feedback from many students. I’ll try to listen to my students carefully and understand exactly what they mean and feel. I’ll create an environment of a close rapport within the class as I believe that the students can be more creative with a comfortable atmosphere.

I have learnt many things so far. I am working during the week and studying on the weekends. Therefore, I am both a teacher and a student. It is hard for me but it reminds me of what students need. So when I finish this course, I’ll frequently assess myself and try to maintain what learning English is like from a student’s perspective.