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Name: Allen (Kwonwoo, Lee)

**Classroom artists, Design your Classroom**

**“The beginning is half of the whole”**. This saying is closely related to the terminology ‘Classroom Management’. Classroom management means as set of organizational skills designed to help the classroom fun, smoothly and efficiently. Classroom management is necessary for teachers because classrooms are not ideal places as much as they think. The situation of teachers is similar with that of coaches of football teams. They can’t win the game even though they have excellent player if they don’t design specific strategies with consideration to their opponents. Of course, sometimes their strategies don’t have an effect, but it will increase chances to win. It is same for teachers because they should manage their classroom depending on classes. They’ll face numerous situations in the classroom, and good preparation will give some answers to teachers. It is the importance of the classroom management. Let’s see more specific situations.

**Situation 1 – Design and implement English Only Policy**

In many countries, which don’t use English as a native language, use English Only Policy (E.O.P). The goal of this method is exposing students continuously to give much time to use English. However, it is not easy to keep this policy for students because they don’t have good English skills, so they’ll try to find some chances to use Korean. How can we use this policy effectively? My suggestion is having a ‘Native Language Day’ that can use their native language. If I want to use E.O.P. then students will use English from Monday to Thursday. There will be some questions because all the classes are being taught in English. Some of the students had some questions, but they couldn’t ask questions because they can’t make sentences in English. For this situation, I’ll have a Korean day for students who had some questions. Also, I will use this policy with flexibility. They are still young students, so I will permit to using some Korean words because they don’t know difficult vocabularies. I’m sure it will help students understand their lesson and improve their English. However, I’ll also consider the other situation when they overuse Korean. If they violate E.O.P intentionally, there will be negative reinforcement, but it should be related to English like Writing an English diary for a few days.

**Situation 2 – Dealing with tardiness and absences**

Being punctual is one of the most important attitudes for learners, and basic part of lesson, because the lesson can’t exist if there are no students. To deal with tardy and attendance, I will use sticker system. Firstly, I’ll divide a class into some groups. Each group will make their group names. It is a diligence competition. I’ll put a score board at the back of the classroom, and there will be 4 parts for each team, and every part has 30 stickers. If they are late, I will take away one sticker per one latecomer. I’ll count the number of stickers at the end of the month. A team, which has many stickers than other teams, will be a winner, and have a party (ex. pizza party). If I give reinforcement individually, then they don’t feel anything. However, through this competition, they’ll feel responsibility, and also learn the spirit of teamwork. Of course, there could be some students who are late or absent habitually. In this situation, teachers should listen why they are late or absent. There might be some troubles with you, and they could be bullied by students. Reasons could be various. If there are no special reasons, I will call their parents, and discuss this problem with them.

**Situation 3 – How will you help your students prepare for major presentation?**

Any kind of presentation delivery will be nervous for students. Preparing presentation is important not only for presenters, but also for teachers because presentations are also part of the lesson. Other students should be able to get useful information from the presentation, so cooperation between a teacher and a presenter (a student) is necessary. The most important thing is ‘encouragement’. Students are not familiar with making presentation, and also they are afraid of standing in front of many people. For this reason, teachers should cheer them up continuously. After giving encouragement, I’ll check his presentation before they do this in the class. I can help them in various ways. I could give a chance for them to practice in front of me, and then I’ll give feedback. If I don’t have enough time, I could check the contents of the presentation. After they get my feedback, they would feel more comfortable, and get confidence. Also, it will be a good lesson because they can give correct information to other students.

These situations are just a few examples that show how teachers can manage the classroom. However, you could notice the importance of class management. Effective class management can be used as a barometer of good teacher, and also it is the first stage for a good lesson. Actually, I didn’t recognize the importance of classroom management. I notice that I can change atmosphere or environment of classrooms, and then it will affect to students. Thanks for giving me a chance to think about classroom management.