**Classroom Policies**

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"Believe in yourself! Have faith in your abilities! Without a humble but reasonable confidence in your own powers you cannot be successful or happy." - Norman Vincent Peale

Instructors always try hard to help their students by teaching what the students want to learn. However, just before teaching them academic subjects, I believe that it is very significant to make a good atmosphere for learning. For instance, to make a highly effective English learning environment, students have to be on time and they are not allowed to speak any other languages, but only English. When students arrive to class late, it can disrupt the flow of a lecture, and distract other students. Not only that, if they are not being punished properly, they might become chronic and it can spread throughout the class. Moreover, in an English class, students should be allowed to use only English in order to improve their English language skills.

Frankly speaking, I was one of the students who often late to class, especially in the morning, when I was an elementary student. Since I was young, I have always known that I am not a morning person. Walking up early was one of the biggest challenges in my life. I did not like peers watching me when I entered late, so, I did not go to school rather than being late. Actually, there were no such penalties for tardiness or absent. I think that is why I was lazy at that time. However, when I was in grade 6, my teacher mentioned that being punctual was the most significant factor in his class but I did not really listen to it. After he warned me to be on time three times, he made me stay with him after class. If I was late for ten minutes, I had to be with him ten minutes more after school, and if I was late for thirty minutes, I had to be in a classroom for thirty minutes. However, it was not effective for me. I did not like this punishment at first, but as time went by, I could get closer with my teacher and I actually enjoyed this time with him. I spend time by doing my homework or reading a book. I did not realize what I was doing wrong at that time. Therefore, I could not really get rid of a bad habit and kept doing it. Now that I think of it, I feel very sorry that I disrupted both the teacher and the classmates whom I studied with.

When I first moved to Canada, I took ESL course with many Korean friends. Even though there were Chinese and Taiwanese people as well, I did not expect so many Korean people there, and I was so pleased to meet people from the same nation in overseas. In my school, there was a speak English only rule. It seemed that all of the students observed the rule. However, as we got closer and closer, we started using our own languages. Koreans used Korean languages, Chinese spoke Chinese, and Taiwan people used Taiwanese. Therefore, my teacher implemented a strict rule that we can speak only in English and set a penalty. The penalty was that if a student was caught speaking other languages over three times, the student had to read sentences on the text book we had learned before. It actually worked for everyone. We started pay sharp attention to use only English and if we heard any other languages, we warned each other and help use only English. By following this rule, we became placid students and it seemed that it was easier for the teacher to handle the class. Not only that, we could have more opportunities to improve our English speaking skills and be a friends regardless of our nations by using only English in the class. Also, when I got caught and had to speak out loud some sentences in front of the class, it was a good chance for me to gain confidence. Therefore, I believe that it was effective policy for those who try to enhance their English speaking ability.

If I were a teacher who is worried about students’ habit of being always late, I would not follow what I have experienced when I was young. I do not think that is not effective for adult learners especially. I actually like Times Media TESOL late policy. Students who are less than 30 minutes late to class and who have less than 2 lates can only get a diploma or a certificate. Students who are more than 30 minutes late to class will be considered as absent. Also, students are not allowed to be absent more than 2 times to get a certificate. In this case, students are likely to become more responsible. I believe that for adult learners, something bad effects which is directly related to their grades or diploma is more practical rather than just embarrassing them. On the contrary, the English only rule really worked for me. I have seen many cases that because some Korean students only hung out with other Koreans, they had barely any chances to use English and their English speaking abilities could not get better than before. Therefore, some of them were forced to go back to Korea because they disappointed their parents. However, under this rule, it helped us not only use English but also understand better when we had to read some sentences which was connected the lesson of that day. As I mentioned above, the result of these rules is to make a good learning atmosphere for students