

New Teacher Academy Teaching Strategies



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New Teacher Academy Teaching Strategies

- ESL III & IV/Writing Teacher

- Students with different backgrounds and various skill sets in Reading, Writing, and ESL Proficiency

- Levels of motivation vary among the student base
- (Two types of learners in Adult Education)
 - **Skill Set Learners-want to learn and increase knowledge base**

 - **Activity-Based Learners-participate primarily for the sake of the activity itself rather than to develop their skill set or learn the subject matter**

- **(Adults as Learners. By K. Patricia Cross. 1981 John Wiley and Sons Inc.)**

Students Attitudes Towards Education

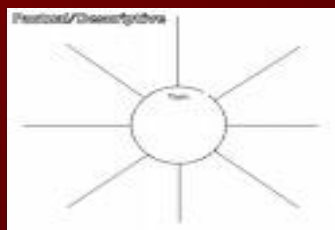
- ✓ **Attitudes towards education by my students are presumably influenced by two elements:**
 - ✓ **Student's own experiences**
 - ✓ **The attitudes and opinions of others**
- ✓ **As their teacher I want to create a more positive personal learning experience for them early on in their learning careers**
- ✓ **Tap the support of their significant others for educational participation**
- ✓ **(Class Involvement)-this is their class and they will learn what is relevant to them**

Strategies Implemented

- **Brainstorming and Discussion**



- **Graphic Organizers**



- **Role-Play and Drama**

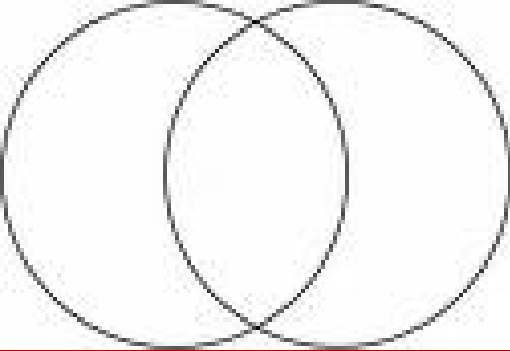


- **Writing and Reflection**



Brainstorming and Discussion

- **During Cooperative Learning Activities (Brainstorming takes place)**
- **Pre-Writing Activities-List of possible topics**
- **Students brainstorm ideas and put all of their ideas on paper first(fragments, phrases)**
- **The Prewriting Stage-warm up activities such as daily journal writing**
- **Online Journal Writing(15-20 Minutes)-FREEWRITING**
- **Then can talk about their day (ESL conversation practice)**



Graphic Organizers

- Venn Diagram
- The Venn Diagram is used to compare and contrast two parallel concepts

- Spider Web Diagram
- Te Web Diagram is used to recall information, organize ideas, even to map out a main idea or concept, and even to display new vocabulary words along with synonyms.

- Ex: We read short stories (John Henry) talk about characters and map out their similarities and differences.

Role Play

- **Role Play connects real life context with classroom curriculum**
- **Increase meaning for adults and this is highly motivating**
- **Creativity involved along with more real life pressure situations**
- **Ex: Shopping for Groceries, Asking for Directions(vocabulary builder)**
- **Ex: Students role play going to the grocery store, and act out the customer and store employee**

Writing and Reflection

- Replacement for traditional note taking exercises
- (At the end of the class, students take 5-10 minutes to reflect on what was covered in class and their favorite part of the lesson)
- This combines reading, writing, and comprehension all in one
- EX: Journal Writing
- During this exercise, they reflect on what we did in class and what they learned. They also mention what they like and dislike about the class activities and I add to the strategy constantly

Impact of Strategies

- The Brainstorming techniques that we used were effective
- EX: Students will write in their journals (free writing)
- They will learn vocabulary because if they need to know how to use a word (or meaning) then they use their dictionary or thesaurus for reference
- I also tell them to rewrite the sentence again using a synonym for the same word that they had difficulty with. That helps them to learn the word
- The Role Play techniques that we used were quite effective and enjoyable to the students
- EX: Students will go to the grocery store and ask for milk, cereal, and fruit (They will role play in pairs or groups of three)
- It really gave students more confidence in English conversation and carrying on a conversation in real life situations (outside the classroom)

Impact of Strategies Cont...

- The Venn Diagram(Graphic Organizer) was a very effective tool
- EX: When we read short stories, fiction type stories in class, this helps the students to map out the characteristics of the main characters in the story
- Students can visually see the similarities and differences of the traits of all of the characters they read about
- Now, as we read stories in class, my students are easily able to identify the characteristics of the main characters in the story and comprehend the story so much faster (in English)

Greatest Changes in my Students

- The greatest change in my students has been in their comfort level of speaking in English in the classroom setting compared to the beginning of the year (confidence, unity in the classroom)
- EX: They now encourage themselves (as a team) to further expand on their own vocabulary, role play, and even their writing has improved)
- When my students are given weekly quizzes on grammar and conversation, I see constant improvement from week to week
- Currently there is more participation from all of my students not just the select few as it was at the beginning of the year

Conclusion

- Adults learn different from kids, but different strategies can be used to make learning both fun and active. Adults want to be involved in the learning process, and these strategies take this approach.
- Their experiences in life, workplace, and knowledge in general allow adults to draw from such experiences and integrate learning with it and make that connection.

