

## MY TEACHING PHILOSOPHY

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**Annotation:** *Following article is mainly about my teaching experience that gave me valuable knowledge how to be a good teacher. I used different methods and techniques in order to achieve my goal. You will get valuable information for your future career if you are a novice teacher.*

**Key words:** *educational environment, facilitator, Bloom's taxonomy, Constructivist pedagogy, humanist approach.*

Choosing a suitable profession is important part of everyone's lives. At that time I never thought that I would be a teacher. For the reason that, being a teacher means taking great responsibility that not only educate students but also provides them for contributing society. However, I became a teacher that is holistic profession according to our mentality. I came across different challenges during my 8 years teaching experiences. Nevertheless, I felt myself confident in every situation because of my love and devotion for teaching. According to my perspective, every child is unique and teacher should create stimulating educational environment. Only in this kind of environment students can develop emotionally, mentally, and socially.

They can produce their thoughts, opinions without fear and hesitation. I try to operate as a facilitator to direct their curiosity for learning. I have been taught different ages from 7 to 20 years olds. I have worked differently according to their ages, interests and needs. I strongly believe that 21<sup>st</sup> century students need more than just acquiring knowledge. They need to have critical and creative thinking skills in order to find suitable job. So mostly I use Bloom's taxonomy in my lessons for increasing their thinking ability.

Except this, for my older learners I often chose authentic materials. I think students learn best when they learn authentic contexts. In this way, they understood the link between what they were learning and life beyond the four walls of the classroom. And of course, with the help of real-world problem solving, they discover the value of knowledge. You can call it a Constructivist pedagogy that emphasizes active discovery learning.

Except this, I conducted my lessons to target higher order thinking skills from Bloom's taxonomy such as CIC (creating, inquiring, critiquing). The aim of this kind of approach was to create lessons that empower students to be self-confident and to enhance their thinking skills. I always set high expectations for my adult learners. Because they were preparing to enter University. They had own goal and needs for learning language and I often asked them to set their own goals and take

steps toward achieving their goals every day. When I saw my learners enjoying themselves in class, I also insisted on working hard and focusing on the task. While teaching children, I always follow a holistic approach. Because each educator must focus on student's physical, social, emotional and cognitive development equally for helping raise balanced children. The reason why I chose this kind of approach, it was strongly influenced by Abraham Maslow's humanist approach. My goal to provide children's basic needs, so that they felt happy, safe and welcomed into the classroom. It is a fact that, if children feel themselves satisfied, teacher easily grabs their attention to learning language. Such kind of positive, friendly relationship encourage my young learners to participate actively and it promotes willingness to learn. In conclusion I want to say that teachers look like torch for delivering their learners for their destination. So, every teacher should have effective teaching style that suits for learners.

After reading Waller, Weathers, De Costa's article about critical praxis I saw 5 principles in teaching language. Admittedly, I did not know them theoretically but I already used all of these principles in my 8 years teaching experience practically. Most I liked the last principle, praxis, that calls teachers to find balance between the theory they have learned and how they implement this knowledge in the classroom. My task here is to find this balance and utilize it effectively in my teaching. In conclusion, I want to say that my philosophy of education is that all learners are unique and I must create stimulating educational environment. As a result, they can meet their full potential in this kind of safe and motivational environment. It means Vygotsky's sociocultural theory informs my teaching philosophy.

## References

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