

Project Template for "Shaping the Way We Teach English"

Module(s): 3, Integrating Skills
Date submitted: 10/05/2006

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Project Reviewer: Sumayyah Khasawneh

Give information for:

- Students' age(s): 19-21
- # of students:

- Language level: Intermediate
- Other (optional):

My Class Now (Snapshot)

Provide a description of the item in your classroom that you are targeting for change:

My class now has a big problem in the language proficiency skill of speaking. Almost all of them are unable to produce a simple meaningful sentence.

Technique(s) I use *now*.

- I usually provide answers to questions, because they are unable to do that, besides, it takes time.
- There is no peer or group work in my classes. Students are not used to work in groups.
- Discussion sometimes takes place in the native language.

Material(s) I use *now*.

- The Text book .
- The Activity book.
- The Chalk board.

My Class in the Future (Vision)

Provide a description of what you expect the item to look like after you've made the change:

I hope to increase their level of proficiency in speaking skills. I want them to be able to answer questions about themselves, the material they are studying and provide meaningful answers

Technique(s) from this module that I *will* use.

- Seating arrangement shown in this module is helpful for development of discussion.
- Group/ peer work is useful as a result of changing the seating.
- Provide no single answers to questions if possible.
- Allow students to express opinions and ask questions.

Material(s) or ideas from this module that I *will* use.

- Provide extra outside material to students to help them read and talk about it.
- Use sheets to help them write and then talk and discuss their writings in groups.

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Additional Explanation from Project Creator

1. The benefits I predict from this change:
I hope to increase students participation and motivation in learning the language.
2. Challenges I expect :
I expect great challenges on the way such as...
Large classes to handle.
Resistance of students to accept the new role and have more share in class.
Lack of motivation to practice.
Difficulty in the way of assessment.
3. How I will address those challenges:
I encourage students by giving extra marks to more participants.
Show examples of success if life if proficiency is good such as getting good jobs.
4. Steps needed in order to complete the change:
Divide class into groups/peers.
Show some examples of good speakers such as tape or video.
5. Timeline for completing the change:
Time is difficult to determine especially students study for 3 class hors per week for about 15 weeks. I would say between 7-10 weeks.
6. How I will assess the degree of success of the change:
I will look for more speaking activity in class, more participation and increased fluency.
7. Other comments:
Our situation at the university is different from schools because most students are weak in English and they take as an obligatory course in their academic study. Therefore, some of them have a negative attitude towards learning it, although it's important for their success. They take 3 hours per week for 15 weeks per semester. I believe they need more time and effort to achieve more tangible results.

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Project Reviewer Comments

1. The time allotted for the change is hardly enough because ,as he stated, he has only 3 hours a week which are not enough for intensive work, but his steps seem really realistic.
2. It focuses at making students active, not passive especially through peer or group work.
3. Students’ weakness in English may be another big challenge in addition to their dependent nature on their teachers.
4. Students’ participation in the classroom is a good indicator at achieving the goal of such a good proposed change.

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Project Reviewer Comments

1. Is the proposed change clear (the snapshot of “My Class Now” vs. a vision for “My Class in the Future”)?
2. Do the steps and the amount of time allotted for the change seem realistic?
3. What do you believe to be the strengths of the proposed change?
4. Do you perceive any additional challenges and/or have additional advice for meeting challenges related to the proposed change?
5. Does the type of assessment match the goals and outcomes of the proposed change?
6. Other comments or questions?