

Project Template for “Shaping the Way We Teach English”

Module(s): 6, Managing Large Classes
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Project Creator: Salwa Al-Mana
Project Reviewer: Waheeda Said

Give information for:

- Students' age(s): 14, 15 years old
- # of students: 40-60

- Language level: Mid-intermediate (grade 9)
- Other (optional):

My Class Now (Snapshot)

The class now has 40-60- students, the teacher finds it difficult to provide discipline in the classroom.

Technique(s) I use *now*.

- It's a class where we have a large number of students.
- Students are not participating, they concentrate for a while then they lose interest in the lesson and feel bored.
- They talk to each other during the lesson.
- Sometimes they misbehave in the classroom.
- Sometimes they don't respect their teacher.

Material(s) I use *now*.

- Coursebook.
- Workbook.

My Class in the Future (Vision)

We have large number of students in class but language learning is taking place. and there is a good rapport between the teacher and her students.

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

- It's a class where we have 40 -60 students.
- The teacher is in control.
- Learning is taking place.
- Students are motivated.
- The lesson is proceeding according to plan.
- Teacher and students are aiming for the same objective.

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

- A poster with classroom routines.
- Extra worksheets.

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Additional Explanation from Project Creator

In “My Class in the Future(Vision) you described and predicted a change that you would like to see happen in your class. Provide additional information for the following related items. Write as though you are informing a person who knows nothing at all about your educational setting.

1. The benefits I predict from this change:

- ❖ We will have a dynamic classroom that engages students in meaningful learning.
- ❖ Teacher will have a positive relationship with her students.
- ❖ Students will have a rich and interesting learning environment.
- ❖ The teacher will have a natural charismatic authority.
- ❖ Students will always be motivated to learn English language.
- ❖ A set of well defined, equitably enacted consequences and clear fair procedures for addressing students who break the rules.

2. Challenges I expect:

- ❖ Students might not accept the classroom rules and routines that I address to them.
- ❖ Classrooms are too small and I won't be able to make groups during the lessons.
- ❖ I have to be creative and to think of ideas to attract their attention.
- ❖ I need time to make extra materials or activities of students who finish early.
- ❖ How to help students to remember each consequence of misbehavior?
- ❖ How to keep all the students busy during the lesson?
- ❖ The students won't accept the consequences of each rule.

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How I will address those challenges & steps needed in order to complete the change:

- ❖ I will keep high expectations in my class.
- ❖ I will establish simple rules for acceptable behavior.
- ❖ (post acceptable classrooms rules and routines on the wall).
- ❖ I will use classroom rules that describe the behavior I want in a positive way instead of saying “No chewing gum!”
→ “Leave gum at home!”
- ❖ Refer to my rules as expectations.
- ❖ I'll put the rules on a poster hanged in the classroom to help them to recall.
- ❖ Students will participate in writing and putting the rules & consequences.
- ❖ I let them know this is how I expect them to behave.
- ❖ I will use indifferenciated instructions to help them to work on task.
- ❖ I will divide the class into groups, and give them simple tasks to work on also assign a role for each student of the group...e.g.(a leader, a checker, a writer...).
- ❖ I will deal with disruption with as little interruption as possible.
- ❖ I will avoid confrontation in front of other students.
- ❖ I will plan extra material for students or groups who finish early (those sometimes cause disruption).
- ❖ I will apply the consequences fairly.
- ❖ Use reward systems for students who behave well.
- ❖ Try to discover the causes of misbehavior.

3. Timeline for completing the change:

I will start it at the beginning of the year; it will take about a term or a year long.

4. How I will assess the degree of success of the change:

Other teachers will asses the change by using an observation chart for the student’s behavior in the classroom.

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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”)?
Yes, the proposed change is clear. It is evident that Salwa wants to address increasing classroom teaching time through effective classroom management.
2. Do the steps and the amount of time allotted for the change seem realistic?
Yes, the steps and time are realistic considering the current situation in Saudi Arabia. If we were to look at this from the American perspective, we may say that one month is sufficient to allow students to get familiar with the routines, rules and consequences in the classroom. On the other hand, from the Saudi Arabian perspective, we will immediately realize that the academic schedule in the first term is “choppy”. There are two major, long vacations during the first term: Ramadan/Eid Al-Fitr & Hajj/Eid Al-Adha. Each approximately two weeks long. After these vacations, students take time to get back in to routines, remember class rules, etc. Furthermore, some of the changes Salwa is suggesting are new to the school culture.
3. What do you believe to be the strengths of the proposed change?
Salwa has done a good job incorporating several best practices in classroom management. Her balance between positive and negative reinforcement and clear focus on expected behavior will help set the stage for a more controlled classroom.
4. Do you perceive any additional challenges and/or have additional advice for meeting challenges related to the proposed change?
I feel Salwa has nicely addressed the challenges related to this proposed change. It would be interesting to consider how the parents will react to this change.
5. Does the type of assessment match the goals and outcomes of the proposed change?
Yes, the use of observation charts will be a useful assessment to determine whether the proposed change has occurred. Perhaps, student peer assessment might also be valuable.
6. Other comments or questions?

Good Luck!