

Module(s): Module 3, Integrating Skills
Date submitted: 13/10/2006

Project Creator: Yayra Abduraimova
Project Reviewer: Rima Ambartsyuman

Give information for:

- Students' age(s): 19-21
- # of students: 10 - 15

- Language level: Upper intermediate
- Other (optional): Language Teaching Practicum course

My Class Now (Snapshot)

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

In my Language teaching practicum class students are assigned different tasks on materials development. The focus of these tasks is to develop materials for language and teaching purposes. All the designed materials are in written form and students present them orally to each other.

Technique(s) I use *now*.

- Students develop their materials in written form.
- Ss present their projects to each other orally.
- Ss get feedback.

My Class in the Future (Vision)

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

This time my students work on developing video materials for teaching purposes. I would like to add a new task on materials development using some concrete suggestions by Donna Brinton. At the end of this project there will be the following product:

1. 10 scripts written by students
2. 10 videotaped scene acted by students. (each for five minutes)
3. 10 lesson plans developed by group of people on videotaped scenes.

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

- This project is focused on developing teaching materials for integrating all language skills.
- While developing materials students are asked to use INTO, THROUGH, and BEYOND technique by Donna Brinton, Forum Magazine, <http://exchanges.state.gov/forum/vols/VOL35/no4/p10.htm>

Material(s) I use *now*.

- Written projects.
- Oral presentations.
- Books.
- Needs assessment.

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

- All the activities suggested in INTO, THROUGH and BEYOND stages will be adapted by students while developing their materials.

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: My students will be interested in this materials development task because all suggested tasks are very challenging and more interesting than written projects based on course books. This developed material will be used by other teachers for teaching integrated skills with the help of video.
2. Challenges I expect: Volunteer students take part in this task. They apply their knowledge gained in Language Teaching Practicum course to this task. Moreover, students know Donna Brinton personally from her visits to our program for several times and this motivated them even stronger. There can be some difficulties with writing August script on certain topics and developing lesson plans on these scripts. Furthermore, there can be August problem in choosing topics for en lessons.
3. How I will address those challenges: working as team, students divide roles and will be responsible for certain parts of the project. I will support them with necessary materials and sources. I will work on their language. Students will have survey among other students for choosing topics.

4. Steps needed in order to complete the change:

1. Forming a working group.
2. Dividing roles for each material designer.
3. Deciding topics of each lesson.
4. Writing 10 scripts appropriate for teaching purposes.
5. Dividing roles for acting scripts.
6. Developing lesson plans for each videotaped material d. Brinton's techniques on integrated skills.
7. Trying out some lessons in real classes with students.
8. Presenting to others.

5. Timeline for completing the change: Six months.

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

The product of this material will tell everything about the success of the projects...

- Students' motivation and interest.
- Number of techniques suggested by Donna Brinton- they should be used at least 3 techniques in each stage: Into, Through, and Beyond in lesson plans.
- How successfully students adapt techniques to their lesson plans.
- Students feedback after using the materials.
- Teachers feedback to developed materials.

7. Other comments:

I have already started forming groups for this project and we are on the process of designing August survey.

1. Is the proposed change clear (the snapshot of “My Class Now” vs. a vision for “My Class in the Future”)?

The project on “Developing Materials for language and Teaching purposes is presented clearly. Yayra explains the changes that she will make. It is very interesting that she uses video materials and three stages: Intro, through, and beyond. This technique was introduced by Donna Brinton and will help the teacher develop Critical thinking skills. 10 scripts, 10 videotaped scene, 10 lesson plans. I see that he teacher is very creative and tries to use the activities from module 3.

2. Do the steps and the amount of time allotted for the change seem realistic?

The steps are very clear and the time is enough. It is August huge project and it needs more time.

3. What do you believe to be the strengths of the proposed change?

Yayra’s strengths are: students are motivated and actively engaged. I think hat the teacher will succeed with such interesting project, because she always seeks for new techniques. I like the idea that the teacher will share these materials with other teachers, tell about the success.

4. Do you perceive any additional challenges and/or have additional advice for meeting challenges related to the proposed change?

The ideas, techniques, materials and steps are with details. I liked that she showed the problems and ways how to solve them.

5. Does the type of assessment match the goals and outcomes of the proposed change?

It is interesting that students write their lesson plans according to Donna Brinton’s technique.

6. Other comments or questions?

Will you share your new project with English Teachers’ Association? It will be very interesting and useful in their teaching.