ENGLISH MADE EASY

by:
Ma. Leonora C. Balcos
Teacher III, Gabaldon Elementary School

Philippines is regarded as one of the largest English speaking nation in the world, the reason why English is considered as the official language in communicating with other countries. It is also used as the primary medium of instruction in the academe especially in the tertiary level.

Nowadays, English language is very essential in expressing thoughts and ideas. It serves as the person’s weapon in communicating globally. Filipinos having good English communication skills found to have a better edge in their career.

So how can we make good English communicators? As early as pre-elementary stage, children should be trained to speak in English. Simple greetings like “Good morning teacher”, “Good afternoon teacher” can help develop confidence and self-esteem among beginners.

Since a lot of learners find it hard to express themselves in English, they tend not to try at all. Teachers should find various techniques in motivating them to speak. An effective way to do this is to make learning fun. Try to have some games like “Simon Says”, “Word Hunt”, “Memory Game” and the like. In this case, learners are energized and heated up. You can also be creative, change the physical set-up of your classroom and go away with the traditional seating arrangement. Include arts and motion in your class, in this way you are not only developing the speaking skills of the learners but also the teamwork and cooperation.
Doing outdoor instruction is also one of the most effective way in teaching language, you can use the presence of nature in discussing adjectives for example. Learners are proactive and well-motivated if they are able to touch the things they are describing.

Moreover, avoid putting pressure on the learners. Correcting every mistake they make can lower the level of their confidence, try to model the correct use of language instead of criticizing their work, this could be a better way for them to speak out.

Lastly, refrain from giving a grade or additional points to every little thing they make, they may be used to it. The next time you forgot to reward them could be their excuse not to work well. Develop the spirit of collaboration and start a group discussion why some of their answers are correct and some, incorrect.

Developing good speakers in English is a great contribution to the 21st century learning. Just hands off to pressure, loosen up and make English easy.

References:
1. How to Teach English to Children: 3 Powerful Strategies for Impressive Results

2. State of English in PH: Should we be concerned?
   https://opinion.inquirer.net/90293/state-of-english-in-ph-should-we-be-concerned