FEEDBACKS ON LEARNERS' MATHEMATICAL SKILLS: ENHANCING AFFECTIVE DOMAIN AMIDST DISTANCE LEARNING

by:
Bryan C. Silvestre, LPT

During pandemic, teachers used online distance learning as one of the more constructive learning methods. Students in mathematics classes are taught to simplify and condense complex problems for easier learning. Despite the current pandemic, teachers continue to develop new ways to adopt the best learning technique to help students learn more productively. Mathematics is valued by students if they consider it is relevant to or useful in their daily life, which is particularly true currently. One of the most rewarding aspects of teaching is leading a vibrant discussion in which students are sincerely engaged in the material and participating thoughtfully (Patson, 2020). It is difficult to create goals in the realm of teaching and learning, especially in mathematics, by presenting real-life scenarios. Everything we see, touch, and experience are linked in mathematics, and the problem is that we don't know how to describe it properly.

“Every problem has a solution,” says a well-known mathematical aphorism. Enhancing affective domain is the key to embracing and enjoying all aspects of mathematics learning. Emotional and attitude engagement with the subject has a positive learning impact, causing every learner to fall in love with mathematics during online classes. However, there are other activities that we must include when assessing students' attitudes toward mathematics. It is preferable if the teachers always implement the portion of valuing, such as posting some quotations that are relevant to the topic at hand. The student will appreciate the substance of our lesson in this situation (Annenberg Foundation 2020). There are several exercises that teachers may use in both synchronous and asynchronous
time to help students improve not just their math skills but also their affective skills. Even yet, it is difficult for a mathematics lesson to improve students' affective skills.

Here are some exercises that we may use in online classes to make them more interesting, organized, and equal to promote enhancing affective skills and make some feedbacks.

1. KAHOOT or QUIZZIZ

Students' engagement with technology, their classmates, and themselves (self-reflection) grows as a result of these activities. Playing Kahoot or Quizziz makes an impact to the learning of every student by receiving some important information that they may use during online discussion.

2. CONCENTRIC CIRCLES through Breakout Rooms

Teachers can utilize this method to have students teach one piece of knowledge to their peers, turning it into a peer teaching style rather than a discussion strategy. Concentric circles can help each learner to help each other. As a result, each student can respond to share their thought about his/her prior knowledge about the lesson, especially in mathematics class.

3. SNOWBALL DISCUSSION

Students work in pairs at first, answering a discussion issue with only one partner. After everyone has had a chance to voice their thoughts, the pair joins another pair to form a four-person group. The newly formed duo exchanges ideas with the other couple and so on until the entire class is involved in a single enormous discussion. This structure might be used to simply communicate ideas on a topic, or it could be used to require students to attain consensus every time they join a new group. Furthermore, snowball conversation boosts each learner's motivation to participate in online class discussions and they will value the lesson that they learn during the discussion.
4. TEACH-OK

It's a peer teaching approach in which the teacher spends a few minutes explaining a concept to the class. It's like think-pair-share, but it's faster-paced, focuses on re-teaching rather than general sharing, and encourages students to utilize gestures to animate their discussions. This activity improves students' affective skills by considering their abilities and help to develop the organization, participation, and relation of the class. The students will unwind in this exercise since they will not be stressed, but rather will feel at ease and that they are not alone. There are some instances that we can share to our student that it’s OK not to be OK. But the most important thing is we learned.

5. THINK-PAIR SHARE through Breakout Rooms

If you wish to add interactivity to a lesson: Simply ask students to consider their solution to a question, create a pair with another person, discuss their response, and then present it to the rest of the class. The student has a different experience when it comes to learning mathematics. Think-pair share activity is better if each student relates the class in real life and they share it not only with their partner but also with the whole class and it enhance the characterization of the class.

As a result, it is preferable if you watch the entire class to see if they are still listening or engaging, as students' online attention span is twice that of their age. All the above exercises are crucial for the students' participation throughout the hour-long conversation.

If you're going to separate the class for group activities, it's better to use the word family instead of the group in those activities. Furthermore, all activities promote a cooperative and collaborative learning style, allowing learners to feel less alone. You must think about the tone of your voice, the materials you provide, and your relationships with all the students. Make sure you always consider each student's feelings and do a reflection of yourself as a teacher to determine if you are effective in class. You may aid not only the
students but also yourself as a teacher, in this way. Feedback is the key to a more productive class that improves not just the students' mathematical skills but also their affective skills. Students remember teachers who go above and beyond what is written in the textbook when it comes to teaching a subject. It's a better result if you feel like you've taught productively at the end of the day, and your students will never forget you and they are always eager to join your class.

References:
