GREEN INK

by:
Rendell L. Pacaba
Teacher III, Pinagsumilan Elementary School

According to Francis Kenneth Hernandez, CAR-Ph.D., using red ink pen in checking must be avoided instead, use green. (Hernandez, 2016) Using red pens has been traditionally used by teachers in grading, checking, putting comments on the test paper etc. but according to research using red pen may convey unintentional negative emotions. Color green perhaps, pertains to hope which means there is always a room for improvement. One can agree that red pen must be avoided in checking so that learners won’t feel anxious whenever seeing red ink in their papers.

In research, it says that academic achievement of students is affected by the color red. Human associates colour in experiences. Instances like, red is associated with danger, failure, defeat and mistake. (Color Psychology, n.d.) It can also be associated with stop signs, emergency, alarms and other threats in our society. This means whenever teacher is using red ink in checking it means he/she wants to grab the student’s attention to improve the work.

Red is the color that stands out and easy to spot against dull colors such as blue and black. That’s why red is used in checking. Seeing red ink in a card means poor grade. Red ink brings negative connotations to students. When a person writes a two pages’ essay using red ink, it is not visually pleasing as if the paper looks bloody. Same as in checking papers, it would discourage students seeing their papers filled with red ink that could probably mean corrections. That’s why green color is suggested.
Green color can be associated with the environment which is tranquil, equilibrium and positive. Just like in checking, using green pens, that might bring students a positivity and hope that there is always a room for improvement. Green invites a good judgement. Even though the students make mistake, they will not feel threatened seeing green on their papers.

Therefore, green ink is much more appreciated than red ink. Correcting papers with green pens will motivate the learner to improve his/her work without being alarmed and anxious. Green is an emotionally positive color that will give a positive impression to the learners.

References: