LESS TALK, MORE LEARNING

by:

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Why do most of the students get bored inside the classroom? Is it because they don’t understand the lesson, or because they are only mere listeners for about 40 to 45 minutes of the class? On the other hand, why do some teachers complain that they are tired of discussing and / or suffering from sore throat or other voice related illness?

If the queries above are noted accordingly, the teaching and learning processes are both affected and maybe the root cause of decrease of quality of transferring knowledge from one to another.

In traditional classroom settings, traditional teachers always talk of the lessons for almost majority of the class hour. The teacher is either always talking, explaining, discussing concepts and acting as a lecturer or feeder to the students. Students are only listening, answering few questions and taking notes from the inputs from the teacher.

In order to lessen boredom on the part of the students and have a less talk discussions on the part of the teacher, here are some suggested activities/strategies:

• Activity – Based Learning

Give activities that suit the level of students but anchor with the learning competency. If possible, from motivation down to evaluation, teachers should provide series of different but connected activities to arouse the interest of the students; engage in a more meaningful process of learning and perform the lesson. If the output of the activity was written in a cartolina or Manila paper, let the student explain his work to develop communication skills.
• Cooperative Learning

Students work with the group exchanges ideas with each other and learn more. A think – pair – share strategy helps a lot because it give chances for every student to express themselves freely without hesitating to ask questions because of the immediate response from the groupmates.

• Film Viewing

Science concepts especially in Biology are very hard to explain / understand in which teacher dominates the discussions. In this case, the teacher feels tired after two to three consecutive classes. Film viewing is one of the best alternatives because not only students love to watch but they can learn ideas, facts and concept from experts explaining the topics. After the film viewing, don’t forget to ask the students what they have learned from watching the video clip.

• Hands On Learning

Theories can be learned through lectures but students will appreciate more if they proved those theories using experiments. Different concepts can be learned best through hands on using manipulatives and experiments which provides an experience that last for up to 75% retention rate. It makes their hands and brain busy that results to a more focused learning. Tek (2017) states that students are kept engaged in what they are doing and are more attentive. Also, kinesthetic learners will perform better if they perform the task.

Like a play in a movie, students are the main characters and teachers are only supporting characters. Therefore, majority of the time will be for the students (student – centered) to showcase their skills and talents; and to face and overcome the challenges to be on their best while teachers are only facilitators and not the center of learning. With these, a lesser talk from the teacher results to more learning for the students.
Reference: