PNEUMONOULTRAMICROSCOPICSILICOVOLCANOCONIOSIS

by:
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I’ll give you a minute to read the title.

If you have read the title correctly without stuttering, my inner lexical vibe salutes you. And if you understand the meaning of the word above, two hands are already down for you. Question is, can you give a short description base on the word itself aside from it is a medical term?

I’ll give you a minute to think of that.

Reading becomes easier only when you just recognize the letters and how they interact with one another in a word, in a phrase, in a sentence, or in a whole text. But reading is not reading without comprehension. Reading is recognizing the letters of the alphabet from A to Z and going through the meaning of the word. Superficiality cannot be associated with anything deeper.

In the recent DepEd report in the first week of February 2020, stakeholders, teachers, and any other who are in the field of education were put in shock. Headlines on the newspapers were big, shouting for attention. Articles were published on different media platforms caused an alarm to whoever has read those. Seventy thousand. Let’s have it in figures for emphasis- 70,000 students in Bicol from grades 1-7 cannot read. Again. In Bicol. Only. And that is not something not to worry about just because of geographical distance of Bicol and Bataan, because if Bicol has 70,000, how about the rest of the country?
Upon knowing the jaw-dropping news, opinions rapidly circulate the system, leading to a question— who should be blamed for this? Now, the blame game begins.

Is it the parents’ fault for not supervising their children’s status and development at school because they were too busy providing for their families’ needs?

Should it be on the teachers for not being able to meet the competencies because of tons of paperwork associated with their job?

Should we blame the Department of Education for giving idealistic standards, which obviously, is not met in the real world, because they wanted the education system and its products be world class?

Is it the students’ fault that they cannot read because the people stated above did not interact well with one another to provide a quality education?

Or shall we end this toxic, unhealthy culture of pointing fingers whenever a trouble comes, and start reconsidering the actions and decisions that we have taken to, at least, lift up the morality of every one of us who is affected by the issue. We can start again if we go hand in hand in beating illiteracy.

Bicol did a good job for being an eye-opener for all of us.

Both Jose Rizal and Whitney Houston believed that children are our future, but to be able for them to be, we have to lead the way for them. At the end of the day, we are all guilty for being negligent, and if not being able to read is a crime, we are criminals.

This is about our youth. 70,000 is already a great number. Questions may still exist about the accuracy of the report, but aside from rooting the cause of the problem, I suggest we also formulate solutions to it.
By the way, Pneumono-ultra-microscopic-silico-volcano-coniosis is a lung disease caused by inhaling very fine ash and sand dust, according to Oxford English Dictionary. This is the word which we have only used in conversations upon the eruption of Taal Volcano.

References:

Nasa Theme https://newsinfo.inquirer.net.com