PRINCIPLES IN GIVING ASSIGNMENT OF LESSONS

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Assignment is one of the essential factors in every classroom management. It is one type of learning that is carried over even in homes. Assignment directs every learner to achieve learning. It is the continuity of the lessons discussed. Types of assignment may be a mathematical problem to be solved, advance reading of topics to be done, themes to be written, questions to be answered, Science experiment to be performed, project to be carried through, a practice to be performed, and the like. Assignment is also a determining factor in directing the development of effective study habit. The fundamental aims of the assignment is to give the pupils definite work to do and to guide and stimulate them to the performance of such work which will result in educative experiences.

Assignment should motivate and stimulate pupils’ interest. Good assignments prepare the mentality of the learner which make them anticipate future steps in learning. The youngsters learn to work by themselves. They learn what to do and how to do them.

Efficient teachers should consider the pupils’ interest, needs, ability, and availability of time. Teachers should avoid giving long assignments. They should not give assignments which would result to failure. Successful accomplishment is possible if interest is sustained on the learner. The teacher should measure the difficulty of work so that success is possible for each pupil. The teacher must also bear in mind that the pupils have other subjects that require assignments. A five item assignment is usually the ideal number which may also be lessened considering the difficulty, or the time to be consumed in doing so.
Assignments vary depending on the nature of the subject matter. An English assignment differs from Science or Math assignment. Take-home tasks should be well-explained to the pupils. In other words, assignments require understanding of pupils. Pupils’ lack of interest in performing assignments is due to inability to understand them. A well-directed and well-explained assignment prevents waste of time on the part of the learner. Every possible difficulty must be cleared and unlocked.

Assignments should also be given on weekdays, not on weekends to give them time to spend for their family.

Reference:

Gregorio, Herman C., Principles and Methods of Teaching, 1976