STOPPING THE “ATTITUDE I CAN’T”

by:

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Students learn best when they are able to express themselves in a way that they want and accepted by the people around them including teachers. There are students who are afraid of classroom participation due to low self-esteem and acceptance of the peers. Some are not able to interact because they think that they would surround by superior classmates. And the most alarming and fearful are incidents when student is once embarrassed by his/her teacher in front of the class due to incorrect response given. Some would neglect because of their attitude that is not within the standard of the teacher. That is why some would terrify to involve with classroom discussion. They just simply sit on their chair and let the class passes by. Some are continuously talking or standing to get the attentions of their teacher, while some are not minding the lesson at all because they think they can’t. With these situations, student develops the attitude or culture “I can’t”. There are students who do not even want to recite because they think they can’t. Some would frighten to take part because of language barrier. Some think they are not good in speaking English or worse they think they can’t speak English at all. These are only minor problems of the teaching and learning process, but if neglected it will become the hindrance to the success of the educational system and the students themselves. Teacher’s inability to solve this culture is a failure on their part.

Teachers must devise a plan to drop this attitude. They must stop it sooner than the soonest. No time would be wasted. Teachers must show factors that make students scared to take part on the classroom discussion. They should also find the strengths and weaknesses of the learners. Teachers shall be an instrument to develop the full potential of the learners and not the hindrance to the students’ ability to showcase their talents and skills. In order to encourage participation, teachers must call the attention of every learner before the start of the lesson and make sure that everyone is ready. Encourage them to answer your question in English not because the medium of uttering the question is English, but because you believe on him that he can answer
it even in a simple sentence. Learn to appreciate their answer every time they try to do and you will see they would not be afraid the next time you ask them.

Teachers must instruct other students to appreciate their classmate upon trying to take part in the class, because some learners are waiting for others to appreciate them. Don’t make them feel that they are inferior to the others, but instead make them feel that everyone is equal and no one is left. Ask some learners to go with someone who is afraid to involve in group discussion and back up to take part, because in this way you can help learners in overcoming inferiority complex. Give them tasks and tell them that you trust them and you are confident that they can execute the task in the best ways they can. In this way, students will develop the sense of belongings and responsibility.

Teachers should not make students feel confused and foolish in front of other people or their classmates just because they are noisy. Teachers must give a punishment that will involve the students in classroom interaction. Let them be the leaders of group tasks, so they can have the chances to talk and express themselves. Teachers should learn how to divert a punishment into an opportunity or reward. Remember that learners learn when they at their best.