STRATEGIC TEACHING PEDAGOGIES

by:
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Years ago, teaching and learning inside the classroom environment posed a restricted going-out-phase as traditional educators did all the talking while the students are meekly listening. I do not say that there is no efficiency and affectivity in the past teaching system. What I mean to explicate is that the way teachers teach is not totally the same today. Traditional teachers projected strict implementation of the rules and regulations – same way the students memorized all the information thrown and discussed by the teachers. When I was just little, I barely enjoyed every bit of my classroom studies simply because less activities were executed. Though I should say that what I’ve become today is the fruit of my hardworking mentors and I thank them for how they shaped and honed me to become a better individual. Traditional education is good, but today’s teaching style is better.

Lev Vygotsky devised the Social Developmental Theory of learning where the core of the idea talks about the Zone of Proximal Development. According to him, learners should interact and socialize with other peer groups in order to increase confidence resulting to higher self-esteem in learning. The more the learner socializes, the more he or she becomes able to grow and develop. Although in some cases, there are students who prefer to be working on their own and they are classified to be persons with “Intrapersonal Intelligence” as theorized by Howard Gardner. In the ZPD, the teacher should only instruct the learner to do the activity. In case the child needs help, the teacher should provide assistance. In short, the teacher facilitates more than he or she spoon-feeds.

Strategic teaching pedagogies refer to how educators accommodate the needs of the learners by making all class sessions meaningful. In the teaching-learning process,
motivation is essential to before moving on to the lesson proper. If motivation is not conducted, the law of readiness is violated. The activities in the first part of the lesson should captivate the learners’ attention and should always guarantee fun and enjoyment. This is how students learn today. The more the students enjoy the class sessions, the more they become immersed to cooperate with their teachers.

Activities, therefore, should be inclined with the lesson proper. The connection between the motivation and the topic enhances learner’s expectancies to guess the lesson to be tackled. This means that a student stimulates thinking and can develop higher order thinking skills. As educators, we aim to not just let our students learn, but to also touch their hearts and apply what they absorbed. In every teaching strategy, we should always conform to the three learning domains – cognitive, affective, and psychomotor.

As teachers, we also have to bear in mind that we will not exist without our students. We will not be standing in our profession without them. Ergo, it is in our hands how we are going to give them everything we’ve got. It is in our hands how we will carve smiles on their faces. Love is the best strategic teaching pedagogy.

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