TEACHERS, PLEASE MIND YOUR MANNERISMS

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The job of teachers, together with anchor people, priests, preachers and the like involves interacting with people. Their goal is to impart knowledge, relay information, convince cynics and inspire parishioners. They face a crowd whose eyes and attention are focused on them; thus, they must present a “refreshing image”. They cannot afford to drive away listeners with irritating mannerisms brought about by gestures, facial expressions or childish giggles.

Teachers, especially, being the “best audio-visual aid” to students, must be careful in front of his/her class. They must project confidence, authority and sincere concern to their wards.

Committing such mannerisms as follows must be avoided:

1. Repeating answers of students

One thinks this helps the non-listeners to hear the correct answer. True but this may also make them do the habit of not listening because “Madam will repeat it for me.” Better ask that student who was unable to give the correct answer to repeat it, emphasizing him to talk aloud.

2. Beginning every sentence with “Ok”, “and then”, “well”, etc. It shows nervousness or the teacher may not be aware of it. But for all, he/she knows some naughty pupils may make the game of tallying how many times the teacher includes or mentions the word in her statements. Alternate each word use, or think of new substitutes like “And so”, “therefore”, “afterwards”, “then”, “finally”, and the like.
3. Erasing the board with hands when explaining and he/she has to change some written words. Use the eraser both for black or whiteboard. This teaches the class neatness.

4. Constant sitting while teaching

This relays laziness on the part of the teachers. One may sit when the class is taking the formative quiz where they are measured for comprehension of the just finished new lesson. As much as possible, the teacher should remain standing, especially when tackling a new lesson.

5. Talking while writing something on the board.

More often than not, the class won’t hear what the teacher says. Further, the black/whiteboard might “answer back”.

6. Mind your grammar.

Avoid using or including such phrases in your sentences:

- Will going
- Did you brought yesterday
- Go here
- Body language: yawning, leaning back on the board,
- To wrote assignment
- Chewing gum

The teacher is a role model to the students, who imbibes what he/she hears or sees. Such commissions will be carried over to their adulthood, especially those who aim to be teachers themselves. It befalls upon a superior, such as the Principal to observe teachers at work because it takes another wiser one to check the other’s innocent mistakes.
References:

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