TEACHING STRATEGIES: INGREDIENTS TO FACILITATE TEACHING AND LEARNING PROCESSES

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Teaching the students to learn in the best way they can is one of the main concerns of every teachers. On this principle that the core of teaching instruction and motivation is rooted. Mastering the learning competencies is a hard task for the teachers. He or she may be faced with different problems that can be the source of his motivation to continue or his or her frustration if his objective is not clear. It can be a form of an instance wherein students do not pay attention if the subject matter is being handed in a dull and passive way resulting to their low retention and performance. This is where the proper use of teaching strategies plays a vital but crucial part.

Teaching strategy is defined as the method used to facilitate teaching and learning process in achieving the desired course contents and goals. Or in the common language, it is how the teachers lay out the lessons and there are many ways to do so. Teachers has to understand that various teaching situations require diverse teaching strategy in order to facilitate learning. However, it is a pseudo belief that there is an exclusive teaching strategy that can be applied to different situations. And so, this can be in a form of visualization, cooperation learning, inquiry-based, differentiation, and utilization of technology to classroom.

The first strategy is with the use of visualization. This strategy operates in the principle that with the visual perception, students may learn better the lesson. Thus, accordingly, it is using of interactive whiteboards to display photos and videos and encouraging the students to have classroom experiments and local field trips. Since students are inclined to the use of visual learning as they spend more time using monitor and screen-projected devices, they are likely to appreciate visually seeing pictures than letters. This can be applied by utilizing the computer rooms of the school.
or IHUB. Likewise, instruction outside the classroom follows also the process of visualization. With concrete experience, students may learn more the lessons.

Cooperative learning, on the other hand, is encouraging students to work collaboratively in doing specific task or activity. Students are more interdependent nowadays that they work more productively that alone. Assigning group activities that varies from physical to mental games will be more pleasant to them. With the help of their peers, those who do not know how to perform will have the competency. If there will be passive group mate, he or she will be encouraged by others to take part of the activity. Nonetheless, his expertise will be shared while others showcase their own.

Inquiry-based instruction is posing of thought provoking questions that will inspire the students to think for themselves and become more independent learners. It is a challenge for the teachers to ignite the critical-thinking ability of the students. This can be in both on the part of the teacher and the students. For the teachers, he or she may have the skill on asking the right and appropriate questions in order to bring out the best answer on the students. He or she has to have the mastery of the art of questioning. Thus, practicing the innate critical-thinking ability of the students.

Different students have their own needs and way of learning things. This truth converges the idea that different students has different way of learning things. Thus, this implicates the need for differentiation. This strategy involves the use of worksheets that vary in complexity. This is also a way to monitor the progress of the students. Some students will appreciate if they are able to identify the level of their capacities and skills. Teachers has to be creative in creating his own worksheets that is appropriate and suitable to the students. If there is an available or existing material, he or she needs to utilize them in order to maximize the instrument.

Last is application of technology in the classroom. This strategy makes use of mobile devices and educational programs to make learning and teaching fun and engaging that will leap the interest of students. Generation Z students have their own way of
learning things. The process of learning is no longer confined with plain instruction but with the use of the gadgets they frequently use. This can be in the form of their android phones, laptops, X-box, IOS and alike. In the previous generation, these are considered destructions but now, these are tools that can be utilized. Therefore, technology application like software, educative online games, ebooks and alike are great help to make instruction more appealing and interesting to the young generations.

The classroom is considered a dynamic environment. It consists of students with various abilities, traits and personalities. As teachers, employing the use of creative and innovative teaching strategies are required to meet the students’ individual needs and make teaching and learning colorful, fun and enticing. These facilitate not only the teaching process but learning process as well. These strategies may be tedious and taxing for the teachers, however, achievement of their goals which is seeing students learn is a gratifying compensation for that.

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