TIPS TO HELP STUDENTS LOVE WRITING

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English teachers encounter challenges whenever they give their students tasks, which have to deal with writing. As an observation, some students hate writing essays, term papers or research. It appears that they do not enjoy doing these things. Most probably, they encounter hard time in accomplishing this type of work. They may also feel that writing term papers or essays consume too much of their time.

Writing is communicative. In their day-to-day living, students usually write in less formal way such as writing online private messages, text messages, notes e-mails or assignments. Here comes the role of educators. We can make them write not just to communicate but experience pleasure at the same time.

Elementary teachers play a very significant role in the beginning stages of writing. This is the time when their pupils learn letters or characters and trace letters on their early years. Pupils’ interest must be sustained to develop their English writing skills. By involving effort and being creative, writing can be so much fun.

As students move to the secondary level, they have longer attention span but they are still children. From the development they have in their early grade, they possess some knowledge and they are technologically oriented. They are also more willing to cooperate in groups considering they have already developed social, motor and intellectual skills. Being a teacher for several years, I have found some activities that helped my students to enjoy writing.

Peer writing. Children love writing when they are allowed to work in pairs or groups. Collaboration helps them not just to improve their output but also to enhance
their skills as well as they contribute something for the group. This does not mean that individual activities must be disregarded. In the teaching and learning process, it is also vital to employ cooperative learning for it brings a number of advantages.

Using songs. Having them list the words they hear in famous songs will make them interested to the present topic. It is about associating the lyrics while accomplishing the task given. Certainly, this gives them fun and excitement. Traditional and time-tested techniques are still effective however, we should never fail to provide learning experiences among our learners in this 21st century. Since e-classrooms and computer laboratories are available in public schools, teachers may facilitate instruction there to maximize learning among her learners.

Keeping journals or diaries. Since writing is one way of structuring thought, students have the chance to write in their most free way.

These are just three tips to help students love writing especially in the English language. But teachers have to keep in mind what Senobio (2015) pointed out. According to him, “No language should be viewed as superior to others.” In addition, he also mentioned that we teach and learn English not because it is a better language than the others but because, for now at least, it is the global language for various human activities. By then, as we develop our students to love writing, we also need to inspire them to value English as a second language.

References:

Senobio, Marvin (2015) Why English is so very hard to teach and learn

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