Creating Teacher Presence and Learning Community in an Online Classroom

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Classroom management

IT IS NOT JUST
- “discipline” in the classroom
- handling problems
- controlling problem students

IT IS
Designing, implementing, and supporting a classroom environment where students can engage and be successful, and which includes things like:
- respect
- consistency
- communication
- freedom to try and not worry about mistakes
- physicality of the classroom (proximity, seating arrangements)
Dilemma

• How can a teacher make an online classroom feel real?
• How can a teacher build the same (or similar) rapport with students?
• How can a teacher help students establish a learning community and even find friends?
How can a teacher make the online class feel real?

• Organized appearance for consistency
  – Welcome page
  – Weekly modules
  – Structure of modules are similar

• “Decorations” – visual appeal to be inviting
  – colors, fonts
How can a teacher make the online class feel real?

• **Organized Appearance**
  – welcome page
  – weekly modules
  – Structure of modules are similar

• **“Decorations” – visual appeal**
  – colors, fonts
  – pictures

English Language Program: Managing Online Classrooms
Forum Institusi Layanan Bahasa Se-Indonesia, September 19, 2020
How can a teacher make the online class feel real?

• Audience = Students
  – not other professionals, not a conference
  – They need to see real life

- You should be real
How to build the same rapport with students?

• Sense of welcome and acceptance
  - Welcome page
    - Code of conduct, curriculum information
    - Welcome presentation: informal video is watched more
Types of Presentations and Content:

- Videos in informal setting
  - introductory videos in Review of the Week pages of Modules

- Academic Presentations – more formal
  - Lecture videos, recorded PPP
  - Show your presence: better participation if students can see you (zoom recordings with your small picture)
  - Videos with document camera showing your hands

- Pictures and colors everywhere
17-2 Adverb Clauses of Time (page 373) (perfect tense in main clause)

- By the time = action 1 is completed before action 2

- By the time Pedro started college, he had finished high school. (Comma!!!)
  - simple past
  - past perfect
  - action 2
  - action 1
How to build the same rapport with students?

- **Sense of welcome and acceptance**
  - Discussion Board: Introduce yourself
    - little passage
    - pictures

Expansion: [Flipgrid: ttps://info.flipgrid.com/](ttps://info.flipgrid.com/)

- You can create a topic with 1.5-minute-long videos, and ask students to create their own.
How to build rapport with students?

- Let students get to know you
- Presentations with real life pictures – hiking for tense review

Chapter 1
Simple Present:
Somebody does something

1. Habit:
   Agnes goes hiking (every week)
   Agnes (often) goes hiking.
2. General Truth
   Hikers like nature.

Present Perfect Tense
(Chapter 2)
Somebody has done something

1. Actions that started in the past and are still going on
   The kids have been good hikers for a long time (for length of time)
   The kids have been good hikers since their childhood (since specific time, date, or action)
   The kids have hiked since they could walk.

Two actions in the past -
Time clauses with while and when

1. While + was/were doing = during the time of an action, another action starts
   While they were walking, they saw a bison.
   (when is also possible here)

2. While + was/were doing = two actions at the same time (can be in the present as well)
   While Greg was posing for the photo, the bison was looking at him.
How to build rapport and a learning community with students?

• Show interest in your students

  ❖ Warm-up activities:

    ❖ Question of the day (discussion board, chat, zoom break out)

    ❖ Show and Tell Days (make kids turn on camera or send pics)

Examples:
Show an object that represents your country (family)
Show any artwork or creation you are proud of.
T-Shirt Day
How to build rapport and a learning community with students?

• **Show interest in your students**

  ❖ Weekly discussion board: students share perspective about a topic

  Describe the object representing your country (that you have shown us) in a paragraph. Use passive voice

  Example 2: Summarize the story of your favorite movie. Tell why you like it.
How to build rapport and a learning community with students?

• **Show interest in your students**
  - Allow students to share stories and opinion
  - Many open-ended activities
  - Writing prompts focusing on student experience and opinion
  - Group projects
  - Teaching material development

**Inclusiveness and Acceptance**

*Secret benefit: less opportunity to cheat*
Example: Passive Voice PowerPoint

- Students shared photos of their creations and some description
- Information compiled to learn about passive voice

**HENNA DESIGN**

This design **was made** on the occasion of the religious festival Eid on July 31.

The hand **was decorated** with this design by Sayeda.

Henna **is widely used** on the skin and as a hair treatment.

**PORTRAIT SKETCHES**

These portraits **were drawn with** pencils.

Famous young people **are illustrated** in some of them.

They **were all created** by Jamie.

**PENCIL SKETCH**

This sketch **was produced** in three days.

It **was made** on the basis of a photograph.

Intricate details **are shown**.

The sketch **was made by** Maike.
**Example: Passive PPP - Bakery Products in our Countries**

**Passive Voice in Different Tenses**

Be + 3rd Form of the Verb

People bake cakes, pastries, and bread in most countries.

Cakes, pastries, and bread are baked in most countries.

Simple present

Am/is/are done

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**Expansion:**

Using Google slides or online Microsoft PowerPoint to create a slideshow simultaneously

Someone baked a ginger bread house.

A ginger bread house was baked.

Simple Past:

Was/were done

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Book:
exercises 6, 11, 12, 14, 17 on pages 218-2214
How to establish a learning community?

• Communication between teacher and students
  - email and office hours posted
  - feedbacks about assessment
  - Rubrics for writing and speaking
How to establish a learning community?

Communication among students

- WhatsApp (Group Me) group for the class
- Smaller study groups based on location, interest, or major – with student leaders
- “Peer buddies” in case of absence or emergency
If done right, positive effects of online learning

• Inclusive towards the quiet and shy students
• Make students more task-oriented
• Can give voice to everyone
• Positive peer pressure
“Teachers help students learn the academic basics, but they also teach valuable life lessons by setting a positive example… Above all, teachers must demonstrate integrity, impartiality, and ethical behavior. Teachers must model strong character traits, such as perseverance, honesty, respect, lawfulness, patience, fairness, responsibility and unity”

and **HOPE**