Creating Teacher Presence and Learning Community in an Online Classroom

Agnes Chikan

ELP Instructor, Special Programs Facilitator

Previous Writing Curriculum Chair

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

- **Audience = Students**

  – not other professionals, not a conference

  – They need to see real life

- You should be real

KANSAS STATE
U N I V E R S I T Y

**English Language Program:
Managing Online Classrooms**

**Forum Institusi Layanan Bahasa Se-
Indonesia, September 19, 2020**

- **Sense of welcome and acceptance**

- Welcome page

  - ❖ Code of conduct, curriculum information
  - ❖ Welcome presentation: informal video is watched more

AGNES CHIKAN

teaching experience in 2 countries and 3 states
1+1+3+2 +2 = 9 schools

KANSAS STATE
U N I V E R S I T Y

**English Language Program:
Managing Online Classrooms**

**Forum Institusi Layanan Bahasa Se-
Indonesia, September 19, 2020**
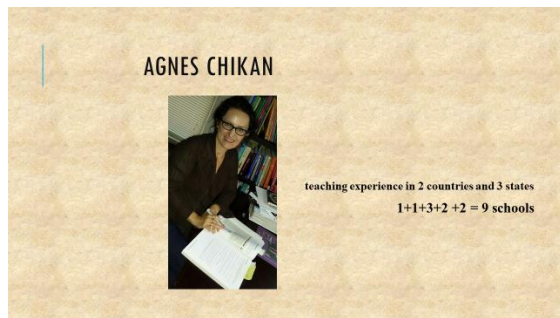
Types of Presentations and Content:

❖ 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

Types of Presentations and Content

- **Sense of welcome and acceptance**

- Discussion Board: Introduce yourself

  ❖ little passage

  ❖ pictures

Expansion: **Flipgrid: ttps://info.flipgrid.com/**

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

KANSAS STATE
U N I V E R S I T Y

English Language Program:
Managing Online Classrooms

Forum Institusi Layanan Bhasa Se-
Indonesia, September 19, 2020

- **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.

Photo: Konza Prairie
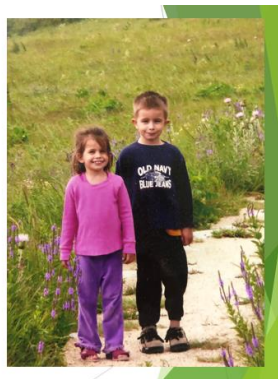
Present Perfect Tense
(Chapter 2)
Somebody has done something

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.

Agnes Chilan, ELP, K-State

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.

- **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

KANSAS STATE
U N I V E R S I T Y

**English Language Program:
Managing Online Classrooms**

**Forum Institusi Layanan Bahasa Se-
Indonesia, September 19, 2020**

- **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.

- **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

KANSAS STATE
U N I V E R S I T Y

English Language Program:
Managing Online Classrooms

Forum Institusi Layanan Bahasa Se-
Indonesia, September 19, 2020

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

Agnes Chikan, ELP, K-State

Expansion:

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

PASSIVE VOICE IN DIFFERENT TENSES
BE + 3RD FORM OF THE VERB

Someone **baked** a ginger bread house.

A ginger bread house **was baked.**

Simple Past:
Was/were done

Book:
exercises 6,11,12, 14, 17 on pages 218-2214

- **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

KANSAS STATE
U N I V E R S I T Y

**English Language Program:
Managing Online Classrooms**

**Forum Institusi Layanan Bahasa Se-
Indonesia, September 19, 2020**

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**

tips-for-teaching/item/2738-professional-code-of-ethicsforteachers#:~:text=A%20professional%20code%20of%20ethics%20outlines%20teachers'%20main%20responsibilities%20to,conduct%20with%20parents%20and%20coworks

KANSAS STATE
U N I V E R S I T Y

**English Language Program:
Managing Online Classrooms**

**Forum Institusi Layanan Bahasa
Se-Indonesia, September 29,
2020**