



THE WAY IN WHICH HUMOR CAN CHANGE THE TEACHING ATMOSPHERE

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Abstract

The main aim of this article is to show the power of humor and how it can change the teaching atmosphere from negative to the positive one. Most often teachers stay very strict in the classroom and due to this, students feel or become introverted. I think in such cases, the teacher should feel the responsibility he/she owns and act accordingly. What I mean by this, the teacher has to use a few of jokes and humor in the classroom to make the lesson more productive and interesting to the students. Also, it is a clear fact that nowadays people get attracted to the type of lessons which are more fun and intriguing, and also want to have such lessons.

Keywords: fun class, intriguing activities, happy faces, positive atmosphere, teaching skills, quality education, facial expressions;

Introduction

It is clear that teaching a foreign language involves a great deal of communication among the teacher and the students. So, in such places, where student engagement is important, the role of humor can just be limitless. It can be an effective teaching tool as it has the power to create positive teaching environment. As well, all these depends on the one main hero of the class and that's the teacher. "So, if there is a lack of professional conscience, the teacher first gains the students' trust, appealing to humor, and then seeks to manipulate them more easily." (Turturean, 2009); Because once the teacher starts to use humor in the classroom, students also start to feel more open with only with the teacher, but also shy students with their own groupmates. Thus, this research paper is going to show how humor can change the course of actions and events happening in the classroom and also how it can create positive and warm teaching environment.





To begin with, one of the most believed thing about teachers is that most teachers are strict and strict teachers are not good teachers. Perhaps this is something quite believed by the students and among their peers. To change this situation, any teacher can bring a few humorous jokes to the classroom and can make the situation better. Regarding the first sense, the literature (Herbert 1991, Egan 2007) points out a number of issues that teachers must take into consideration in teaching: humor is used in an appropriate way, in ethical limits; it must be relevant and connected with the theme / content of the activity (it was proved that irrelevant humor is effective in working with preschoolers, but it subsides with advancing in age); humor must be appropriate to age peculiarities, thus rendered accessible and adapted to be understood and to have the desired impact; using humor in class shouldn't affect pupils / students, should not create situations that make one feel awkward or ridiculous (should not laugh at the name of students, physical defects, no discriminatory-sexist, racist or others remarks).

I think to see its real benefits to the students, humor actually should be used in the classroom. "The humor indicates the teacher's ability to express intelligent and spiritual expression, being an effective way to capture attention first by calling to emotion. If we call to the positive emotion, as is natural in an activity with students, the implications can be distinguished: the association with positive experiences supports learning, motivation for this activity and thus increases learning power, as well as academic achievement." (Daniela Jeder, 2015); Through observation, one can see these benefits and may experience and feel the importance of it. Below some of its benefits will be mentioned, so the readers will make their own conclusions based on these. Now, here you can see the benefits of humor and how they appear and change the teaching atmosphere to positive:

An increase in knowledge. It is basically true that humor makes the students remember things faster, thus, students feel the real ease with learning and can easily learn things and boost their own knowledge on the given subject. Also, the use of humor here depends on the different circumstances and the individuals attending here.

A rise in self-motivation. We know that when one joke is made, actually, 90% of attenders get excited and smile. When one's mood gets excellent because of the jokes made, one can truly gets content with life, at least with the situation he/she is in. That's why self-motivation of that person will also rise naturally and the learners feel themselves greatly motivated and tries to forge ahead.

Attendance in class has increased. As students start feeling themselves more open with the teacher, they become content with the lessons. As a result of this, these





students get motivated to study more. As well, students who attended to the lessons less before will also start attending and students rarely miss the lessons unless they do not have worthy reasons to be absent. Therefore, it is a good idea to use more humor, if the teacher wants to have the best attendance in his/her class.

An improvement in test results. As students get more open and content with the quality of the lessons as they have a lot of fun in the lesson, they feel positive energy all the time in the classroom. Due to this, they become enormously productive and study with a great desire to be a good student. As a result, when they get to their final exams, they get the best results and even on the test day, they do not stress themselves a lot like other usual candidates. Because their learning process was fun and on the test day, when they sit and start working the test paper, what they remember will be the positive emotions and feelings they had during their classes.

Divergent thinking is on the rise. Once the mood is also improved, the students tend to feel themselves psychologically powerful. With this, they can improve themselves a lot. They will have more clarity in their own thoughts and also, they will start thinking divergently. Understood as "the process of changing opinions, attitudes or behavior of some people aware that this change is expected by exposure to the messages with this purpose" (Chelcea, 2004), persuasion may call to elements of humor. If masterfully wields the elements of humor, the teacher will obtain an increase of trust and sympathy from his students and thus a consistent support in persuasion.

An increase in the desire to learn. Jokes in the classroom make the learners feel excited about the lesson and students get attracted to these jokes. Due to this, they want to hear more of these jokes. To have these jokes more, they will attend the classes regularly. Besides this, their motivation to learn new things will surely increase and they will be striving to learn new things.

When coping with challenging content, anxiety and stress are reduced. As students have the best, the most positive experiences with their lessons, they feel more encouraged to study more. As well, it is worthy to mention that these students get better at challenges, as they have developed necessary life skills as well as the courage to be brave.

The establishment of a favorable social and emotional learning environment. As mentioned above, learners will start feeling warmth among each other. The main reason for this is that while they laugh with each other, they usually feel close with each other, which can easily create happy and fun learning atmosphere. While the learning atmosphere is fun, the learning atmosphere also becomes friendly and everyone stays open with each other seeing each other as true friends.





The formation of a psychological relationship between faculty and students. Also, other teachers will start respecting these classes where humor is a usual habit and main tool of teaching. Teachers themselves want more to conduct their lessons with these classes and they have a lot of fun together. This in its place, will form a strong psychological tie among teachers and students, which is more than vital to have.

In conclusion, the significance of jokes is so wide in the classroom to create a very positive atmosphere. If any teacher uses this effectively, not only does he/she achieve to have a positive atmosphere in the classroom, but also, achieves other benefits that come with it. As the possible benefits are mentioned above, it is important to note the ways through which they come as a teacher can do the exact stuff here. This research paper tried to analyze the main benefits of humor in the classroom and the effect it has on the learners.

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