**I’d like**

**to share**

**my teaching**

**experience …**



“ Experience is one thing you can’t get for nothing ”

**Oscar Wilde.**

“ It is beyond a doubt that all your knowledge begins with experience”

**Immanuel Kant.**

“ Skill is the unified forces of experience, intellect and passion in their operation”

**John Ruskin.**

“ The value of experience is not in seeing much but in seeing wisely”

**William Osler.**

“ You cannot create experience. You must undergo it.”

**Albert Camus.**

“ To be a champion, I think you have to see the big picture. It’s not about winning and losing; it’s about every day hard work and about thriving on a challenge.”

**Summer Sunders.**

“ Be brave. Take risks. Nothing can substitute experience.”

**Paulo Coelho.**

It’s rather difficult to find ‘perfect’ words to describe how you feel about teaching. This statement is a reflection of your view point, teaching style and thoughts on education.

Each teacher can recount numerous highs and lows in their teaching career. Personally I experienced many great moments while teaching. These were days when I ended so happy and enthusiastic that I knew I had selected the right profession. On the other hand I had days when I definitely questioned teaching as a career. These were days where the students seemed uninterested, too talkative or even worse a blow up occurred and nothing got accomplished. Thankfully the average combined with the positive days outshine my negative days.

The role of a teacher today is much different than it used to be. Teachers used to be told what to teach and how to teach it. They were expected to use the same methods for all students. In today’s world of education a teacher’s role is quite multifaceted. Their job is to counsel students, help them learn how to use their knowledge and integrate it into their lives so they will be a valuable member of society. Teachers are encouraged to really tune into how each individual student learns, and try to really challenge and inspire them to learn.

I guess motivating students just happens to be one of the most difficult things a teacher has to learn to do, not to mention the most important thing. Research has shown that students who are motivated and excited to learn are more likely to participate in class.

There are different ways to motivate your students and get them excited to learn. One of them is to encourage and respect all students.

Children look to adults for encouragement and approval. When they are getting the respect and acknowledgement they need for a job well done, they are more likely to feel valued and excited about learning. Praise your students even if it is just for something as little as remembering to write their name on their paper. Recognizing something as small as that can help motivate them to do more. Be sure to say ‘good job’ and ‘well done’ as often as you can. Creating a warm and friendly classroom where it’s okay for students to have their voice heard will go a long way.

I believe that every student have something to offer, whether it is an intelligence, talent in art or just having a very positive personality. And I always try to be a consistent figure of comfort and kindness that one can count on and learn from.

The best advice to a teacher who wants to create a student centered classroom is to try it out. You can start small by re-arranging the desks, giving students a choice and having students participate in cooperative learning activities. If all else fails then you can go back to your traditional classroom setting. But it doesn’t hurt to give it a try. Remember, everything that you try new will take a little time and practice, just be patient.

Try not to always rely solely on your textbooks for lessons. There are also many other tools you can use instead of them. Get creative and teach students through games , the iPod, videoconferencing, going on a field trip or through a video. By creating a stimulating environment students will be excited to come to school and learn.

Lessons plans don’t have to be the same old boring worksheeets. Try thinking outside the box and do something that is completely out of the ordinary. Invite a guest speaker or take learning outdoors. When you try something new and different there is a good chance that your students will respond with delight not defeat. The next time you are planning your lesson try collaborating with another teacher or take your students on a virtual field trip. Learning doesn’t have to be boring in order to be effective. Your students will find it more interesting to learn when it is presented to them in a variety of different ways.

In my opinion, technology is also a great way to keep your lessons interesting. Children love electronics and any chance that they get to use it is a good thing. Instead of standing in the middle of the room and lecturing try using a Smart board. Instead of having students do a cooperative learning activity with just the students in the classroom try connecting to another classroom via video conference to do the group work with. Utilize technology in any way that you can and you will see the interest level go up tremendously in your classroom

I believe that occasionally using video as a support for teaching can be very beneficial to students. It allows them to be submersed into a world that sometimes a teacher alone cannot achieve. I have used educational videos found on the Internet to introduce units, as well as showing movies as part of a language arts lesson.

As for me, there are at least five essential elements that are conducive to learning:

* the teachers role is to act as a guide;
* students must have access to hands-on activities;
* they should be able to have choices and let their curiosity direct their learning;
* students need the opportunity to practice skills in a safe environment;
* technology must be incorporated into the school day.

There is a Chinese proverb that states ‘’Give a man a fish, feed him for a day. Teach a man how to fish, feed him for life.’’ I want to achieve this but more specifically: to teach my students how to learn and how to live, because that will be valuable throughout their lives.

Вeing a language teacher it was always interesting for me to work with a word. It is very difficult to overestimate the importance of vocabulary acquisition. This fact is admitted both by teachers and learners. It is also reflected in many recent titles. Due to the development of new approaches of language teaching which are much more word centered, there has been a revival of interest in vocabulary teaching in recent years. However, these developments have been slow to reach teachers in a form that is easily transferable to the classroom. So my project ‘’How to teach vocabulary’’ was an attempt to answer the question ‘’What can teacher do to help?’’ Through different activities, procedures, techniques, materials I tried to arouse students’ interest in words.

In a traditional teaching grammar and vocabulary are taught separately as if they are separate areas of language teaching and learning. Many textbooks have separate sections of grammar and vocabulary.’’ You can say very little with grammar but you can say anything with words.’’ But as Widdowson points out: ‘’Teaching which gives primacy to form and uses words simply as means of examplification actually denies the nature of grammar as a construct for the mediation of meaning. I would suggest that the more natural and more effective approach would be to reverse this traditional pedagogic dependency, begin with lexical items and show how they need to be grammatically modified to be communicatively effective.’’

I quiet agree on that vocabulary and grammar are closely connected. Language must be viewed in its totality with the different components constituting one whole.

That’s why for the past five-six years I’ve been working trying to improve my knowledge and my classroom skills in these two important areas – vocabulary and grammar, also taking into consideration that nowadays the process of vocabulary enrichment and grammar improvement is an essential part of training for the Final Test ( Independent Testing ). So the importance of having an extensive vocabulary and perfect grammar skills is undeniable.

I analysed all appropriate materials and resources according to the chosen scientific-methodological issues, their topicality, aims and tasks. I surveyed the principles underlying the acquisition of vocabulary and grammar skills and sketched possible implications for teaching, explored the subject of vocabulary and grammar learning strategies.

All the time I tried to avoid the danger of routine and monotony and students’ demotivation making learning experience permanently stimulating and interesting through different activities, procedures, materials that an ideal balance created for the class. I created lesson plans both effective and entertaining, mixed a variety of activities centered on vocabulary and grammar to reach a broader range of students, worked out the didactic materials for lessons and classes.

Through investigation of different ways, means, techniques, strategies effected the learning process giving students ideas how to learn effectively and shared my own learning experiences and those of other learners – both successful and unsuccessful – with my learners. I also encouraged students in the development of their own learning strategies, involved them in making projects, presentations, surveys, investigations.

I tried to create such educational environment where they could grow physically, mentally, emotionally and socially. It was my desire to create this type of atmosphere where students could meet their full potential, were invited to share their ideas and take risks.

As a result they took part in school , district, regional and international competitions ( Olympiads, contests “Greenwich”, “Clever’’, “Puzzle”, American program “Flex”) and showed good results.

The authorial programmes of elective courses “Useful Grammar” and “Successful Exam” were worked out by me during this period to make the teaching and learning process easier, useful and more effective. I created the groups of students willing to take part in the project “How to teach vocabulary”, stimulated best of them to join in the group ‘’Natural Grammar” to acquaint them with new approaches in learning and improve their grammar skills and habits, and at last to make them ready better for the independent testing.

To identify what students have learned, to identify students’ weaknesses and strengths, to provide a way to measure a teacher and school’s effectiveness I worked out and used different kinds of quizzing and testing ( multiple choice, gap-fill (close, open, selective), C-test, tests of recognition and production, etc.).

I love learning and discovering new things. I have a strong belief in the importance of teaching. Our knowledge and discoveries are only useful as long as they are passed to the next generation. I would not be in the position I am now in if it were not for the wonderful teachers and professors who have taught me over the years. So I always eager to cooperate with colleagues from other schools, mentoring new teachers and getting them ready to teach the youth of today. We have a possibility to deepen, gain and share the experience at the meetings of our educational district which I have head for eight years, and at the meetings of our Creative group as well.

Teaching is a learning process – learning from your students, colleagues, parents and the community. This is a lifelong process where you learn new strategies, new ideas and new philosophies. Overtime my educational philosophy may change and that’s okay. That just means that I have grown and learned new things.