

LET'S OPTIMISE

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22/10/2018



macmillan
education

(to) OPTIMISE

to **make something better** than it was before, or
to **do something better** than you did before

WHY?

JOB SATISFACTION=PROGRESS=SENSE OF ACHIEVEMENT

satisfied teacher = motivated, interested and enthusiastic
students, students wanting to achieve something

SKILLS

The time (expressed in percentage) allocated to these in your lessons:

Reading/100%

Writing/100%

Listening/100%

Speaking/100%

The **easiest** to practice for students/teachers...**WHY?**

The **most difficult** to practice for students/teachers...**WHY?**

The proportion of skills practiced in a lesson **cannot always be perfectly balanced**, but none of skills should be neglected in long term perspective.

SOLUTION = GREAT COURSEBOOK
incorporating all skills in a balanced manner

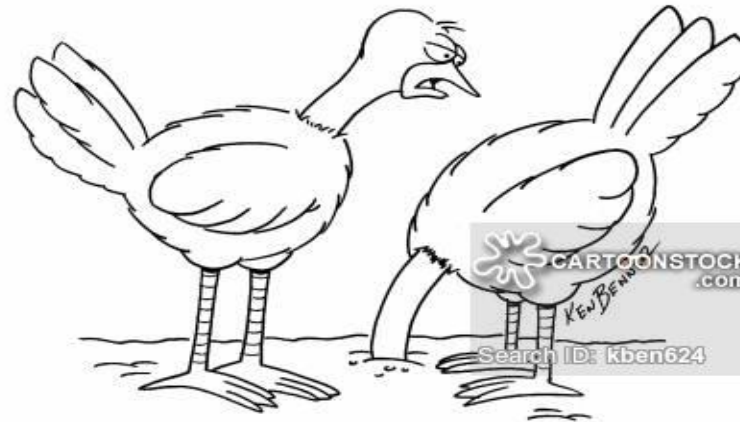
COMMUNICATION FLOW

teacher to student/100%

student to student (pair work)/100%

a student to students/100%

COMMUNICATION FLOW is closely related with **ATTENTION SPAN**
ATTENTION is the interest or thought that you give to something you are
LISTENING TO/WATCHING/READING/WRITING



"You've always been a poor listener Harold."



"My teacher said I don't pay enough attention in class.
At least, that's what I think she said."

ATTENTION DISTRACTORS

MENTAL CONDITION:

bad mood

lack of motivation/no motivation at all

individual problems

handicapped learners (learning disorders)

PHYSICAL CONDITION:

sickness

tiredness

thirst

hunger

ENVIRONMENT: lack of fresh air, mobile phone, colours, size of workplace

Can you think of any other?

ATTENTION

INTENTIONAL

attention **awakened and maintained by student's own will**; process of conscious concentration on a subject; occurs in activities that are not of our own interest, but which for any reason we have to perform...**MUCH MORE DEMANDING AND EXHAUSTING**, closely related to development of individual will, thinking and character...**NOT EASY TO MAINTAIN** 😞

UNINTENTIONAL

attention is the one **triggered by peculiarities of acting stimuli** = the external environment: ...strength, size, extraordinariness, unexpectedness, contrast, change, interest, diversity ...**VERY EASY TO MAINTAIN** 😊

maximum length of attention = 20 minutes!!!

TEACHER ROLE

typical problems we face: demotivated learner/learners who have blocked/
complacent learners/learners who do not advance

EVERY PERSON/STUDENT/LEARNER

is unique and different because

OUR BRAINS ARE UNIQUE

<https://www.efficientlanguagecoaching.com/rachel-paling/>



"Of course I forgot what I learned last year.
I have to make room in my brain for
the new stuff."

IDEAL TEACHER 😊

TEACHER becoming COACH

does active listening/asks powerful questions/manages the conversation

typical shortcoming of a teacher: **finishing of** learners sentences, **correcting mistakes** while conversation is taking place

WANTING TO LEARN

80% on learner, 20% teacher

Person doing it, learns it.

avoiding fear, tension, run away feeling



SPEAKING

student to student (good ones) = chance to discuss, summarize, come up with statements, judgments, ideas, results...

student to student (weak ones) = will probably use mother tongue, need to monitor and help

Speaking activities **SHOULD HAVE** a certain kind of output and the highest possible level of student involvement.

AVOID DEBATE FOR DEBATE



WHAT DO YOU THINK OF?

...the most typical way of asking...

...better provide a statement: controversial, too negative, too positive, taboo...

Students get MUCH MORE involved thanks to THEIR need to respond and have THEIR word...(feeling of being listened to, heard)

Men are much better at driving than women.

Technologies are entirely bad for mankind.

Angels do not exist.

...trigger discussion, in pairs, come up with results, confront...

while **ALWAYS** being polite...

FLUENCY vs. ACCURACY



**“GEORGE IS FLUENT IN TWO LANGUAGES.
ENGLISH AND TOTAL NONSENSE.”**

SPEAKING CAN BE FUN

students come with jokes they looked for/know

Girl: You would be a good dancer except for two things.

Boy: What are the two things?

Girl: Your feet.

practicing riddles/tongue twisters

What is greater than God,
more evil than the devil,
the poor have it,
the rich need it,
and if you eat it, you'll die?

I saw Susie sitting in a shoe shine shop.
Where she sits she shines, and where she shines she sits.

SPEAKING CAN BE FUN

students come with proverbs and idioms

If it ain't broken, don't fix it.

Chew the fat.

TEACHER ROLE/NEGATIVE



“Here’s another email from a parent, written in lower case with no punctuation and seventeen spelling errors, demanding we do a better job of teaching social skills.”

PARENT ROLE/NEGATIVE



GREAT COURSE BOOK ROLE

all language skills incorporated, challenging, interesting, age tailored topics

INFORMATION-RICH CONTENT

CLIL worksheets, culture worksheets, literature worksheets

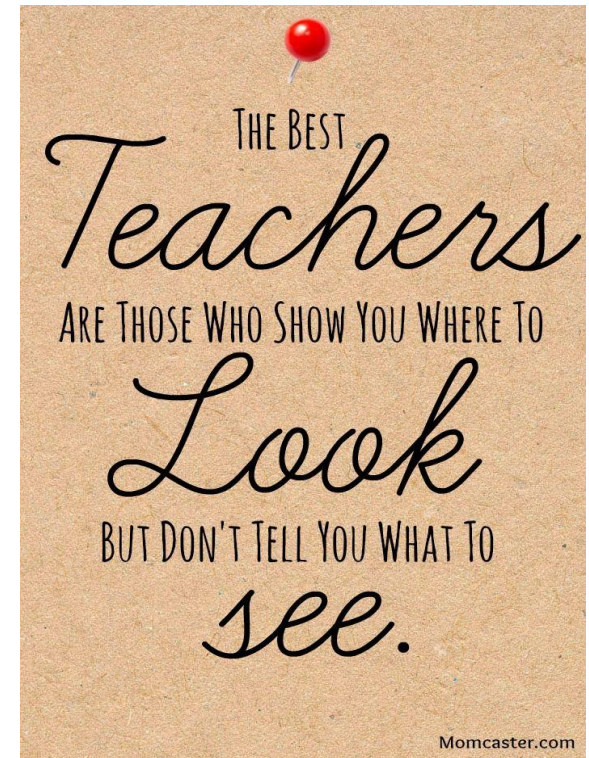
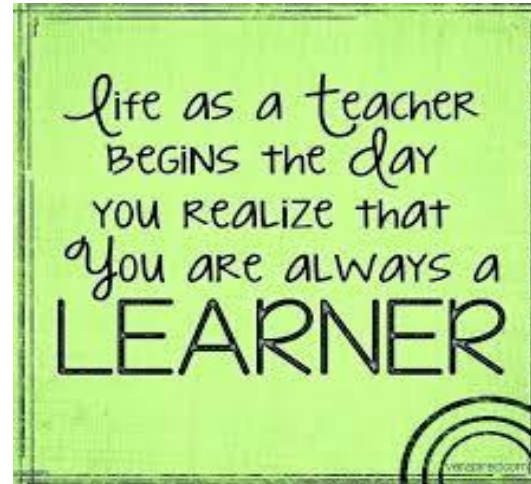
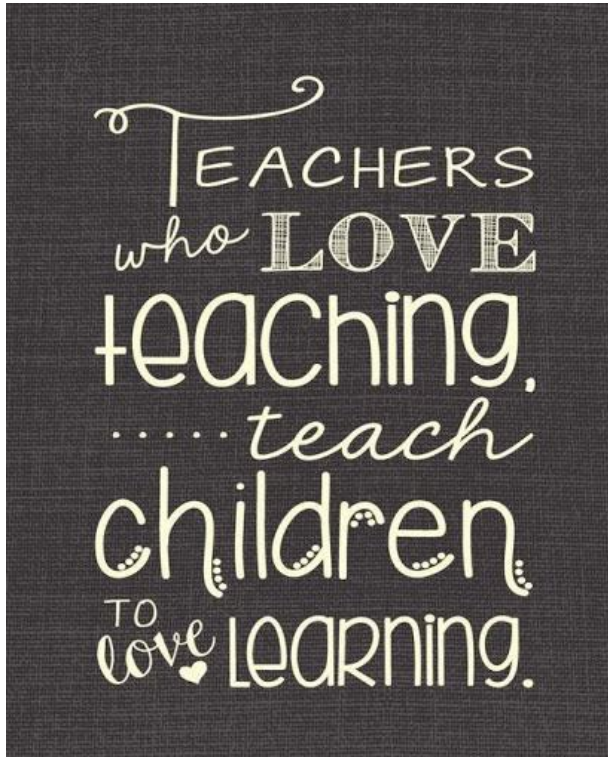
LIFE SKILLS

life skills videos with worksheets, everyday English worksheets

INDEPENDENT LEARNING

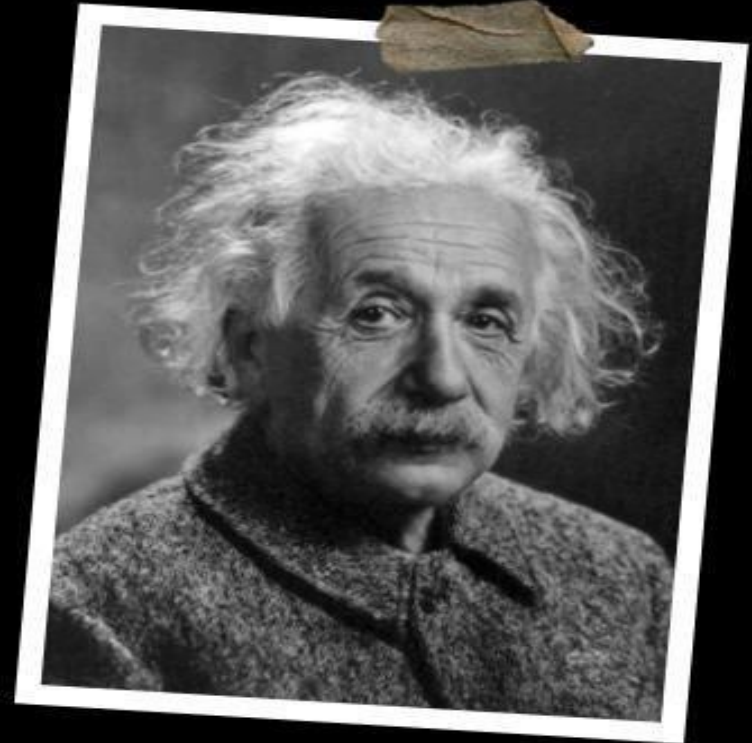
student preparing at home - making lesson efficient

...a few quotes to finish with...



...education...

**"Education is not
the learning of
facts, but the
training of the mind
to think."
-Albert Einstein**



Thank you for your attention 😊

Any questions?

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