

Presenter and author: Lic. Mailenis Morera

Title: “Improvement of the Professional Development of English Teachers at the Pedagogical School in Pinar del Río”

Title of the course of reference: Online workshops of the Hornby Project: Creating professional development opportunities for young teachers in primary and secondary education in remote communities and local schools.

Training institution: Pedagogical School Tania la Guerrillera

Trainer(s) PhD. Luis Mijares, Lic. Mailenis Morera, Lic. Arlet Padrón, Lic. Imayasil Licourt

Beneficiaries: Teachers from the English Area at the Pedagogical School in Pinar del Río.

Type of cascading activity: Methodological preparation

MAIN CONCEPTS

Continuous Professional Development*^

Reflective Pedagogy

Research in Language Teaching*

Storytelling in Language Learning*^

Communicative Language Teaching*^

Task-based learning*

***Most Debatable Concepts**
^Highly Accepted Concepts



10 WAYS TO BE A MORE REFLECTIVE TEACHER

- Record yourself teaching
- Share that video with your PLN*
- Invite colleagues to observe your class
- Ask the students for feedback
- Ask yourself daily, "How did it go and how do you know?"
- Keep a minimalist blog or journal
- Be honest with—but not critical of—yourself
- Surround yourself with enthusiasm
- Look for what's working
- Diversify your metrics

* Professional Learning Network

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4 Effective Classroom Management—The Essentials

Figure 1.1. The Process of Classroom Management

It is also important to note that this visual representation does not imply that each section of the model is equally important. Although each component is an important part of the entire process of classroom management, teachers will emphasize different parts of the model depending on many factors such as their philosophical beliefs, teaching contexts, and students' personalities.

GOAL AND DESIGN OF THE BOOK

The primary goal of this book is to help teachers become effective classroom managers. The visual representation presented in Figure 1.1 serves as the framework for the remainder of the book. Each chapter concentrates on one of the key areas depicted in this model and its importance to a teacher's overall classroom management plan. Examples of specific techniques and strategies are...



If you need some more ideas for how to do TBL with your students, here are just a few ideas:

- Making a phone call to make a reservation, or complain about something.
- Write an email in English for work.
- Visiting the doctor.
- Gathering information to make a poster or advertisement.
- Make a short movie.
- Plan a road trip.

Communicative language teaching

"For effective communication we need to know both the language itself *and* how to use it."

"Learners best learn a language when they actively use it."

"Learners benefit most from activities that provide meaningful communication."

"Teachers are facilitators."

TCEL ESSENTIALS

AL
GELI
 Asociación de Lingüistas de Cuba
 Grupo de Especialistas en Lengua Inglesa

Action research (AR)

Teacher- conducted classroom research aimed to clarify and resolve learning and teaching issues and problems (Burns, 2010)

It is conducted during the process of regular classroom teaching

It can be carried out by an individual teacher or in collaboration with other teachers.

New ideas inspired by the study of the documents and group discussions:

- Teachers should create their own opportunities for their continuous professional development.
- Research goes beyond diploma papers.
- Teachers should self assess their pedagogical practice.
- The need to implement classroom management strategies to enhance the Teaching Learning Process.



Changes in...

Teachers' thinking:

Teachers agree on how their preparation does not depend only on institutional training, they are now more conscious of the level of quality of their professional practice, they understand the role of research for their preparation, teachers are aware of the need to adjust their lesson planning in accordance with the communicative language teaching methodology.

Teachers' practice:

They regularly self-assess their lessons and the materials they use, they have made a habit of researching for better resources so as to plan lessons making sure the activities planned are truly communicative. They have incorporated task-based learning and storytelling as activities to develop the students' language skills. They apply classroom management strategies to create positive learning environments.

Students' learning

Students have become more active in the lessons, they show a positive performance in the classrooms and they are obviously more motivated.



Some opinions from local participants:

- ❖ The webinars are an excellent way to use the new technologies improving Cuban teachers and students` education.
- ❖ This particular webinar contributes to update the teachers on the current trends of English Language Teaching, filling gaps on their formation.
- ❖ When cascading the general system of knowledge received in the webinar other teachers benefit from it and there is a feedback that can be used to improve the teachers practice since they can apply what they debate and learn it in specific school contexts.



What is coming next?

- ✓ Teachers should share the results of their self assessment so as to debate on the strengths and weaknesses they have found.
- ✓ They should extend research to solve problems in their educative realities.
- ✓ Teachers could implement new and creative strategies to manage their classrooms and evaluate the impact these have on the Teaching Learning Process.
- ✓ Teachers must work on finding and creating more opportunities for their Continuous Professional Development.
- ✓ The concepts treated in the online course should be treated in weekly methodological preparations.
- ✓ These topics should be extended to the future teachers through the subject of Didactics and Culmination of Studies.

