



Effective Teachers for Effective Classroom Environments

Dear Readers,

In the school culture that emerges in the information society, information changes very quickly. As a result, there have been many changes in today's education systems. Today, students are expected to acquire the knowledge through an active process using their cognitive skills. Moreover, it is important to improve the creativity and thinking skills of the students. Therefore, it becomes clearer that the quality instead of quantity has become more important in education and for the effective education systems.

In order to be able to talk about an effective learning and teaching, an effective process should be established within the classroom. For this reason, there should be an effective learning environment in the classroom. In this environment, the learning process should be carried out in a way that students show respect each other, support each other and engage in the classes. Moreover, effective classroom environments are generally characterized by comfortable and reliable places based on mutual relations and interaction. By creating an atmosphere based on mutual interaction within the classroom, teachers make students feel that they are valuable.

Interaction is an integral part of learning and teaching process. In effective classrooms, the interaction level between students and teachers are very high. As a result, students feel more self-confident and student effort is much appreciated. Students have higher motivation, which increases the academic success. On the other hand, in the effective classrooms students' beliefs, feelings and ideas are respected and valued. All students are regarded as individuals with different personalities. Therefore, it can be said that education is individualized, which means that learning is directed towards each individual's interests and needs. In this process, students should be provided meaningful learning opportunities.

In effective classroom environment, students participate in the classes actively. Participation in the classes primarily provides students' learning and supports the learning process. Moreover, student participation helps students learn and practice new knowledge and strategies, and examine their own thinking processes. In this respect, it is observed that the students are more successful in the courses they attend. On the other hand, active participation is an important in terms of personal development of students. Students with higher levels of participation are stated to be more satisfied. Students are required to take an active part in the learning process in order to gain the information presented to them. In active learning process, students should be provided with opportunities for speaking, listening, reading and writing. In this process, it is necessary to provide a more meaningful and effective learning environment for students, which will enable the physical and mental active participation of the students. For this aim, effective teachers should provide learning opportunities for students to participate in

activities and regard that learning is a normal process and mistakes are a natural part of this process. Moreover, teachers should encourage students to communicate clearly.

In effective classroom environment, it is of great importance to ask questions in conducting the learning process in accordance with the desired objectives. Students should be given the opportunity to ask questions they want with a sense of curiosity. Moreover, teachers should encourage students to ask questions. Similarly, effective teachers help students achieve positive achievements by asking questions and discussions. They provide feedback to students by conducting research and application studies. Effective teachers should be able to teach students the strategies they need to know about learning.

For effective classroom environment, teachers also have great responsibilities and duties in the process of raising students with the skills needed to keep up with the requirements of the century that we live in. Therefore, teachers should have some specific knowledge and skills to have an effective education system. On the other hand, effective teachers are expected help students in the learning process, make the learning process easier, and increase the motivation. Teachers should provide students with practices to develop deep thinking skills related to problems and encourage students to develop various approaches to solution. They should approach students' views and problems in a positive manner and establish good relations with their students. Teachers who understand their students share the joy, sadness and excitement of the student.

Teachers are also expected to have positive interactions with students and create a positive classroom environment. In order to create a positive learning environment, they need to cope with inappropriate class behaviours by establishing positive relationships with students. In this way, students will feel more comfortable in academic environments. The interaction between students and teachers is important for creating the desired behavioural changes in students. Moreover, teachers should make their expectations from the students more clear. Moreover, students should be informed about their duties, roles and responsibilities. By doing so, students can take their own responsibilities and try more. This enables the students take part in the learning process, which helps them to have a feeling that they are respected and their ideas are given importance.

Effective teachers are characterized as the people who have high level of information related to their profession. Moreover, it is of great importance that effective teachers are equipped with field knowledge, skills and general culture knowledge. In order for the teaching profession to be carried out successfully, it is very important that teachers are equipped with field knowledge. On the other hand, with the technological developments, many technological devices have been used in education and training processes in the transmission and sharing of information. Therefore, teachers in the information society should keep up with the technological developments. Teachers who are equipped with technological knowledge and skills should be involved in the process and therefore learning should be more active and permanent.

Effective teachers are also successful in classroom management. Classes are the environments in which students and teachers face learning, teaching and learning activities. Effective teachers influence their students by using their knowledge, skills, attitudes and behaviours. They praise and reward the students and provide the desired behavior to the students. In doing so, they contribute to the positive development of the student by emphasizing their achievements rather than emphasizing their weaknesses.

In conclusion, effective classroom environments are required for an effective learning and teaching process. Classroom environment affects the learning level of the students directly. Therefore, a great importance should be given to have an effective classroom environment. In creating effective classes, teachers have great influence. As a result, effective teachers are desired to have effective classroom environments.

Sincerely,

Burcu Karafil

Language Editor

University of Yalova, Yalova, Turkey

Email: burcu.karafil@yalova.edu.tr