



Teaching the Language with the Six Principles

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Abstract: In this article the international experience in learning and teaching English in a global context, peculiarities of students in language learning and the importance of youth periods in language teaching is explored basing on the previously done researches on this topic. The essence of the 6 principles of language teaching and the need to put it into practice is one of the important aspects of the article. As general information about the influence of students' ability to learn a language, family environment and relationships with others will also influence the productivity of the student, this issue is also under consideration. Ways to work with exercises aimed at developing interest in language learning, improving lesson efficiency is given with clear examples.

Key words: training, learners, engagement, one size fits all, teacher, learning experience, knowledge gaps, level.

How well do you understand and empathize with your learners? Do you know them, really know them? As a learning and development or training professional, you have a lot on your shoulders. You need to plan, organize, and implement training, and in this whirlwind, you may place the end-user on the back burner. One of the greatest misconceptions is that you need to spend more time and resources on content creation because this is what ensures better learning results. Of course, content creation is vital, but if you don't spend time creating a learning engagement strategy, your learners will feel like numbers on a spreadsheet.

You need to understand your learners, get to know them – and here are 3 reasons why: Make Training More Effective Going through assessment scores and reports only tell you a fraction of the learners training experience. You need to understand the effectiveness of the training, or its ineffectiveness. And to understand this, you should always turn to your learners – they have the answers! Turning to web analytics is great, but it won't give you the complete picture. Let your learners provide feedback about their learning experience. Your analytical spreadsheets will tell you what aspect of your training is successful – and your learners will tell you WHY. Communicate Meaning “Epic Meaning” is a buzz word in Learning and Development circles – and for good reason. This refers to showing your employees just how important their specific role is, and how it plays a role in reaching the company's mission. This will make them realize just how important their skills are, and why they need to continually expand on them. The first hurdle in training is to get your employees interested in it. No one wants to take part in corporate training if they think it will be boring and bland. You want to give your learners a reason to log in to their learning platforms. By inspiring your learners, and showing them that they are an important part of your business, by communicating their “epic meaning,” they will want to be a part of your training and learning programmers. In order to communicate effectively with your learners, you need to know who you are talking to. Get to know your learners, how they communicate, how they think, and what is important

to them. You need to speak their language – and use this language when creating their training content. This is how you strike inspiration in your learner – and make your training programmers even more effective. Personalize Training You can't expect your learners to appreciate a "one size fits all" training program. Your learners are all different, and all have different styles of learning and communicating. Some employees will learn faster than others while other learners need more time. If you are not creating a personalized experience, your training may be a waste of time and resources. The way to achieve this is through adaptive learning. This kind of learning solution keeps track of everything your learner is doing. This system has the ability to analyze their actions and adapt training to suit the individual, giving them access to material that is more relevant to them. Adaptive learning can be provided by your Learner Management System. Getting to know your learners may seem like a big task, but it will help make your training courses that much more effective. When you have created a sense of community on your learning platform, your job will definitely become more interesting and rewarding. Don't look at your learners as a faceless crowd, learn about them, who they are, what they like, and how you can use this information to enhance your training. So what do you have to do to appeal to your learners? You have to excite them. You have to intrigue them. You have to provide solutions to their problems. And most importantly, you have to convince them that your solutions will change their life for the better. How? By knowing what your learners expect from you. By knowing your learners, so you can deliver exactly what they need. By having a deeper understanding of them you can approach them like a friend and guide them like a mentor to make them change their behavior and attitudes. Have conversations with them frequently. Hear about their needs, fears, goals, interests and expectations and figure out next steps from there. Each conversation will make you more effective at eLearning design. "The better we know our students, and the more they know and trust that we know them, the more invested they become in their learning" – Teach Thought.

If you know your learners, it will be worth your time as you will be more capable of: Grab their attention and persuade them more easily Adult corporate learners have too little time on their hands. They are also surrounded by distractions. So if you cannot grab their attention right away, you will lose them soon. There is one foolproof way to hook them: convince them that your course has solutions to improve their life. Convince them of the value of your course. By thoroughly knowing your learners before you create your eLearning course, it becomes easier to grab their attention because their needs and goals are front and center.

Identify target audience needs clearly.

Here are some tips.

- Mention specific, measurable benefits. The benefits of learning soft skills are hard to measure, but here is a tip: research your target audience, find out about their performance goals, and tie in the benefits with these. For instance, if your course wants to teach time management skills, point out benefits like reduction in the duration of meetings
- Evidence and examples: The art of persuasion is not just about seizing the learner by his throat and making him gulp down your teach. Present real-life scenarios, case studies, expert testimonials to make the learner appreciate the relevance of altering his behavior or cultivating a new habit. Choose characters who match the demographic characteristics of most of your learners. Use examples to get them to see benefits of the new idea.
- Reiterate what's-in-it-for-me information in the course.
- Experiential learning: Create a design where learners can learn by exploring and seeing for themselves the consequences of their actions and decisions. This increases the relevance of the course.

Improve Engagement and Decrease Dropout Rates You don't want your learners to leave midway through the course, right? So you have to keep them engaged throughout the entire course. Know their motivations, expectations, fears, and challenges, to think like they do, so you can say what they want to hear. This will help give you the clues on how to connect with them. Let your learners know

that you understand them—and that you're here to help them. Here's how:

- Choose a few critical benefits of taking the course and refer to these often. Remind the learner how the lack of skill is hampering his climb the corporate ladder, and repeat. Being often reminded of the benefits of taking the course will keep the learner interested.

- Write in a language that feels familiar and friendly to the learners. Use expressions that they are accustomed to hearing and analogies that they can relate to. Do not chide him for his woes; instead, show empathy. Assure him that his situation is not uncommon, and the solutions are right at hand. The adult learner wants to be talked to, not talked at.
- Encourage exploration. Create opportunities within the eLearning course that allow learners to explore around. For instance, make learners click images or buttons to find clues, or introduce quizzes to reinforce the learning. Your learner will naturally and enthusiastically “pull” information when you subtly guide him towards it instead of shoving content down his throat.

Enhance Knowledge each new learning experience builds on earlier knowledge. Optimize the learning experience you provide by tapping into the existing knowledge base of the learner. Here is the golden rule: do not assume that you know what your learners know because the learners themselves do not know what they know. You have to blast through the layers of misconceptions to uncover the knowledge levels of your learners. This will enable you to create course content that makes learning easy by building on prior learner knowledge and experience. Understand the language skills of your learners, so you can present concepts, theories, and models lucidly. Identify the base level of learner knowledge and skills, so there are no knowledge gaps and the learners can easily assimilate new information based on existing knowledge. Understand prior learner experiences and the culture that they live in, so you can create analogies the learners can relate to. Customize the learning experience Your learners won't sit through a course that feels alien to them. You have to make them feel special by providing personalized learning experiences. Your learner has to be convinced that you had him—his needs, aspirations, and challenges—in mind when you designed the course. Any run-of-the-mill whiff from your course and your learner will be repulsed. Here's how you can create a customized learning experience:

Be careful with jargons because they are double-edged swords. Just as jargons can frighten away the uninitiated, not using common occupational terms with an audience who are aware of these could get you branded as someone who is not an expert. This will dent your credibility. Use imagery and analogies that your audience is familiar with. Use appropriate cultural references to bond readily with your audience. On the other hand, using inappropriate cultural references can offend learners or make you look like you are a stranger in their midst. Go easy on the humor. Although humor can break the ice, it can backfire as well if you unknowingly touch a raw nerve or end up making fun of a touchy issue. Respect your audience's time. Do not bore your learners with irrelevant content. This is especially true of courses geared for the C-suite. Present content in modules and give your learners the freedom to take these at their own pace and place.

Learner-centered classrooms require teachers who know their students well enough to use the most effective teaching methods for their class. This lesson explains how knowledge of learning preferences, cultural backgrounds, and individual interests can improve teaching and student motivation at the elementary, middle, high school, and college levels. If you walked into the hospital on the day you were scheduled to have a surgery, and the surgeon asked what he was doing for you that day, you'd probably be more than a little panicked. In many human-services fields, knowing the people you work with is integral if you want to do a good job and succeed. The same is true of learner-centered classrooms. These are classrooms in which the student is the focus of all activities and learning, with the teacher acting as a facilitator and guide on the side. In order to establish an effective, productive, learner-centered classroom, you must know your students - and not just their names. What You Should Know A doctor doesn't need to know your favorite color to treat you effectively? Likewise, in teaching, there are certain pieces of information that are more important than others when getting to know your students. Some of the most important include preferred learning styles, cultural backgrounds, important relationships, interests, and personalities. All of these factors are things you should know about your students at any level of education. Having this

information will help you to better serve and facilitate your students' learning. Let's look at how this information aids learning at several levels of education: elementary school, high school, and post-secondary education. Elementary Level if you are an elementary school teacher, you know how difficult it can be to motivate students. This is especially true if you are teaching in a learner-centered classroom, where students are responsible for much of their own learning and must be motivated to want to do the work. By knowing your students, you can come up with creative ways to motivate them to work. For example, some of your students might prefer to learn information presented to them verbally instead of reading it. In this case, you can provide those students with resources they can use to find videos or recordings about the topic or concept of interest. But if you don't know their preferred learning style, you can't be a good facilitator in this way. Family relationships are also incredibly important at the elementary level. Getting to know not just your students but also their families is key for helping them learn. By knowing your students' families, you can create partnerships so that the students are supported in learning, even when they are not in school. By taking the time to maintain these relationships, your students have a better chance of succeeding and learning. High School Level Students at the high school level can be incredibly difficult to get to know at times. However, doing the work will pay off for both you and the student. As a high school teacher, you are responsible for teaching your students the skills and knowledge they'll need to move on to college, a technical school, or a career. It's important that you tailor instruction for these students toward their interests so they can see how their education will impact their lives in the future.

Getting to know your learners may seem like a big task, but it will help make your training courses that much more effective. When you have created a sense of community on your learning platform, your job will definitely become more interesting and rewarding. Don't look at your learners as a faceless crowd; learn about them, who they are, what they like, and how you can use this information to enhance your training.

Resources:

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