Reflection After Teaching

After teaching the lesson of body parts, I realized I did more than what I was included in my lesson for this particular fifteen-minute period. For instance, during the “El súper monstruo activity”, I did not plan for the students to tell me what body parts to add for the monster. I was just planning to tell them what to draw to check their comprehension. However, having them tell me what parts to add aloud, made the lesson more interacting and productive.

Before, the lesson I felt very nervous because I was not sure if the students were going to comprehend everything in Spanish. On the other hand, I did not want to translate because translation is something that I don’t like to do when I teach. Also, I did not want to give the impression that I will be using translation in my future classes. However, after the lesson, I was very satisfied with the results because I did not have to translate and I ended up overusing gestures and hand movements to convey meaning.

In my opinion, I enjoyed the lesson and felt that the students were enjoying what they were learning. The students were actively participating and responding to my questions and commands. I felt very comfortable because even though the students were not young learners, they were motivated to learn by singing songs and playing games. I do not have a lot of experience teaching but I feel that people have multiple ways of learning. Therefore, when I teach, I feel compromise and responsible to meet my students’ needs and that is why I like to include games, songs, and other scaffolding strategies.

Furthermore, I have to mention that I feel very motivated after I heard my professor and classmates’ evaluation comments. Most of them gave me positive comments and it seems that they liked the lesson. For example, most of them said that if they were students in my class they would feel engaged, encouraged, entertained, and motivated. They also taught that the use of hand
movements and facial expressions was fantastic and appropriate for my teaching context. As a result, I feel that these comments will inspire me to make my teaching lessons valuable and meaningful to my students. I was very happy to hear constructive criticism such as “great use of scaffolding techniques and error correction”. The feedback provided is an opportunity for professional development and improvement for future lessons.

Overall, the activities in the lesson and class dynamics reflect my teaching principles because it is my belief that instruction should be student centered, responsive to students’ cognitive and personal needs. Also, I believe that a teacher needs to provide meaningful experiential and motivational activities that will encourage the students to learn. Thus, in this lesson, I tried to do activities that were at level of young learners by drawing a monster, playing games and singing songs. In addition, I enjoy teaching young learners because I take part of their energy and I become energetic as well. For this reason, every time there is an opportunity for teaching a class or a short lesson, I try to learn from it and modify my teaching styles according to the needs and personality of my students. Therefore, every teaching moment is a unique learning experience to remember and to put in practice.