Becoming Highly Professional Teachers

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What makes a good teacher VS What makes a professional teacher?

- Students' voices:
- ➤ They should make their lessons interesting so you don't fall asleep in them.
- ➤ A teacher must love her job. If she really enjoys her job that'll make the lessons more interesting.
- ➤ I like the teacher who has his own personality and doesn't hide it from the students so that he is not only a teacher but a person as well and it comes through the lesson.
- > Your own voice?

What makes a good teacher?

- A simple answer to this question is that good teachers care more about their students' learning than they do about their own teaching.
- This awareness should then inspire a good teacher to be a professional teacher.



What makes a professional teacher?

TEACHERS AS CURRICULA DEVELOPERS

Curricular spider web



What practices do English teachers have to know?

- Understanding the current ELT curriculum
- Understanding their position within the curriculum
- Formulating, developing, and managing their own teaching-learning process
- Developing their own language awareness
- Developing their professional teaching career





Understanding ELT Curriculum

- Changes (Richards 2007)
- New curriculum frameworks currently being implemented in different parts of the world include competency based, genre based, and content based
- English is now being introduced at primary rather than secondary level
- Innovations teachers are being asked to consider are Multiple Intelligences, Co-operative Learning, Task-Based Instruction, and alternative Assessment.
- A framework of curriculum that offers more space to teachers' innovation, creativity, and autonomy

What are the Goals of Teaching English?

Then

- English as cultural enrichment
- English the language of English speaking countries
- Teachers seen as cultural informants
- Literature an important dimension of lg. learning
- NS accent the target
- NS-like fluency the target



Now

- English as a practical tool
- English a world commodity
- Engl. Learning not necessarily linked to US or British cultural values
- Engl. Teaching linked to national value
- Mother-tongue influenced accent acceptable as well as NS accent
- Comprehensibility the target

Understanding Teachers' Position within Curriculum

- Being positioned as curricular developers
- Being more as a facilitator rather than simply as a source (student-centered vs teacher-centered)



Formulating, developing, and managing their own teaching-learning process:

✓ Aims & objectives

- Specify general aims for the lessons series and specific objectives per lesson unit for each grade level
- Reflect on national standards
 - Learning outcomes
 - Assessment standards

Content

- Specify themes and topics for the lesson series
- Reflect on conceptual consistency (between themes) and sequencing between grade levels

Learning activities & Teacher role

- Specify what activities are expected from the learner and how these are supported by the teacher
- Reflect on balance between
 - Whole-class activities (eg. Introduction/closing of the lesson)
 - Activities in grade groups



Materials & resources

- Specify what materials and resources are needed to conduct the lesson
- Reflect on what is available in schools and how parts of existing textbooks can be used as inspiration and/or background for the lesson materials?

Grouping

Specify how pupils are to be grouped during the lessons

Location

Specify where pupils will be grouped during the lesson

Time

- Specify the time available for the different lesson elements
- Reflect on time available for whole class instruction, individual (independent) work, individual coaching of students

Assessment

Specify how learners' progress will be tested



- Planning and preparing a lesson or sequence of lessons
- Selecting & using resources and materials
- Managing the teaching and learning process (teachers' - learners' language in the classroom and classroom management)



Developing English Teachers' Language Awareness

- Teachers of language must have adequate understanding of language
- A good understanding of language is needed for teachers to:
- 1. formulate the objective of the teaching
- 2. select appropriate materials
- 3. design learning tasks and activities which make learners learn effectively
- 4. do valid and reliable evaluation



What has been happening now?

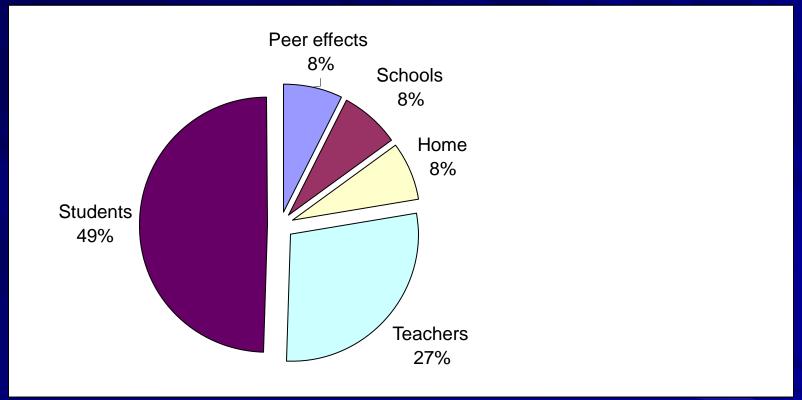
- ✓ Language awareness is found inadequate among teachers.
 - Therefore, they tend to view language as a well-pruned bonsai tree of syntax and only take into account the materials of the teaching but neglect the learning tasks and activities and other important aspects of the teaching.
- ✓ Teacher-training programs do not guarantee helping them develop their sensitivity to language.

Developing Teacher as a Profession

- Teacher Certification Program Does it motivate teachers to keep on developing their profession?
- Kompas in its several publications stated that teachers' professional allowance has not proven effective to support teachers' professional development.
- Teachers are still reluctant to make the most of their efforts to be more professional teachers.



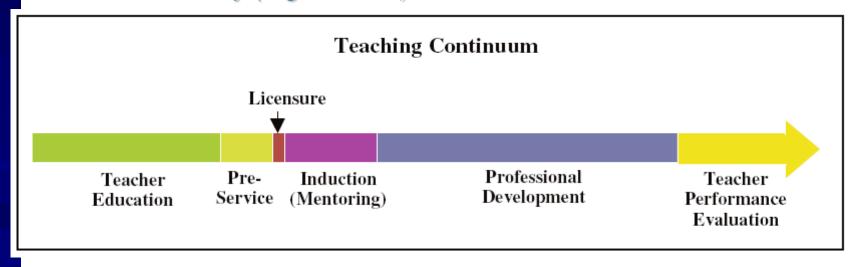
Components of variance in student achievement



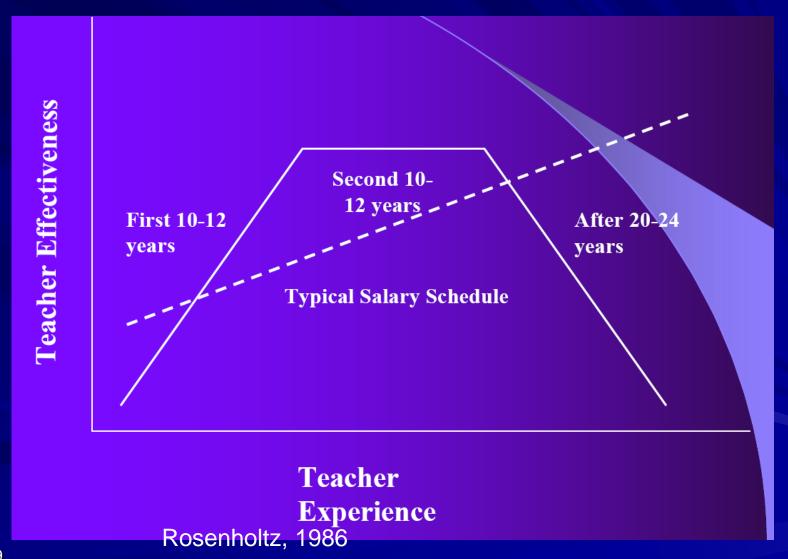
Hattie, J. A. (1987); Hattie, J. A. (1992a).

Why Assessing Teachers?

- High stakes decisions: licensing, hiring, selection
- Supporting professional development
- Monitoring implementation of curriculum innovations
- Accountability (e.g. TIMMS)



Is teacher quality an everlasting attribute?



Thank you

