

Module Two **MONITORING**

Module 2

Effective Classroom Monitoring Techniques

Monitoring is a crucial technique for managing a classroom. Learn the importance of monitoring, when to monitor, why it is useful, and how to do it effectively.



by **Mohamed Ali Khalaf**



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When to Monitor

Effective monitoring is essential during speaking activities, when teachers couldn't quickly locate any errors in performance and track the progress of learners. During written practice exercises, the teacher should observe students carefully, help to identify errors, and encourage students to self-correct. Group and pair work activities are monitored to improve accuracy, fluency, and to ensure that learners are on task.

Purposes of Monitoring

- 1 Assess progress**

Monitoring offers teachers an opportunity to assess students' progress and provides useful feedback on areas requiring re-teaching and further practice.
- 2 Increase performance**

Students develop at varying rates; careful monitoring is a reliable means of keeping track of progress and a blueprint to increase performance.
- 3 Enhancing task achievement**

Excellent monitoring enhances task achievement and fluency and provides feedback to guide teaching.
- 4 Discipline**

While monitoring promotes learning, it also provides discipline in monolingual and mixed-ability classes to foster active learning and improve motivation.

How to Monitor

- 1 Positioning**

Arrange chairs away from walls and make sure that all students are visible. Sit with pairs or groups and monitor them randomly. Don't spend too much time with one group, and make sure you monitor all the learners.
- 2 Tuning in on Conversations**

Always listen for accuracy and fluency when tuning in on a different conversation. Pay attention to the performance of each individual and the group as a whole, and the possible areas that need improvement.
- 3 Self and Peer Monitoring**

Encourage peer and self-monitoring to promote learning and ensure all are engaged. Train students to self-correct and to monitor others.

Techniques for Close Monitoring

"When large classes are involved, monitoring should be done by walking, moving through the students. Circulate randomly among the students, observing pairing and group-work activities from all angles, requesting brief oral reports from individuals or groups based on observed performance, and noting specific strengths and weaknesses of students in all groups."

Micro-teaching During Monitoring

Micro-teaching provides an opportunity to focus on individual students and offer guidance on errors while creating a more conducive environment. This technique makes the process more participatory and impactful and encourages personal and cultural awareness among students.

Positioning during Monitoring

Teacher's Positioning

Teachers should not be heard to be jumping from group to group or overspending too much time with one particular group. It's essential to position behind learners, out of their field of vision so they can focus on their group activities.

Translator Positioning

Translators should be given an isolated area for monitoring or should be positioned behind unaccompanied students. This position allows him to listen for errors in the target language and encourage self-correction.

Tips for Close Monitoring

- Move randomly when monitoring large classes
- Locate desks strategically
- Monitor all learners individually and also as a whole
- Ensure visible and audible proximity to learners
- Ensure that learners are not left unmonitored.

Conclusion

Monitoring students in real-time ensures they receive the instruction and feedback they need and is key to successful classroom management. Monitoring encourages self-correction, reinforces learning, elevates performance, and imposes discipline. Teachers should embrace different techniques to ensure that all students receive adequate attention.

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Mohamed Ali Khalaf | CELTA & TEFL Tutor

WhatsApp: +201117434448