

3 Classroom/Time Management Strategies

Pacing - Impact Teachers (2016) described pacing as "the skill of creating a perception that a class is moving at just the right speed for the students." There's a correlation between effective pacing and student engagement, so it's crucial to consider the speed at which you move through a lesson and the rate of delivery for different parts of the lesson. When pacing is too slow, students often become bored and disengaged. When it's too fast, some may not grasp what's being taught and get lost—or discouraged.

Tell Them About It - Communicate your goals at the start of class. This will give your students an idea of where you intend to go in the class period and help motivate them to concentrate and focus on each activity. Write your goals on the board along with the amount of time you expect to spend on each step. Refer to this agenda throughout the class period.

Ask Random Questions - Ask questions about the lesson as you teach, and call on students who have a difficult time focusing. Adding the element of surprise to a lesson keeps students attentive, and their minds are stimulated, trying to anticipate the answers to questions.

2 Instructional Strategies

Relevant Vocabulary - Relevant vocabulary must be present in your lesson. Keep your vocabulary limited to what your students are able to handle and make sure that it is actively used in context throughout the lesson. Also have your students interactively use the words during the lesson. Use vocabulary that's relevant.

Graphic Organizer - A graphic organizer allows students to visually categorize new information or review old information. Students need to conceptualize information given to them. The graphic organizer should help students construct understanding through an exploration of the relationships between concepts. When they look at information that's organized, it's easier for them to retain and remember. Careful design, creation, and use of graphic organizers can provide important intellectual guardrails to guide students toward deeper understanding and learning.

1 Assessment Strategies

Misconception Check - Misconception check is a type of formative assessment. It is meant to see if students, when given a false fact, can identify what is the correct answer. Present students with a common misunderstanding and ask them to apply previous knowledge to correct the mistake or ask them to decide if a statement contains any mistakes at all, and then discuss their answers. This allows teachers to adjust a lesson to correct any errors and allows students to evaluate their agreement/disagreement with the false fact.



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