

Creating
Classroom Rapport
through Communication

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Rapport

Atmosphere and relationships in the classroom

Bad Rapport

Affective barriers to learning
Less effective pair/group work
Afraid to make mistakes
Afraid to be corrected by peers
Shorter conversations

Good Rapport

Can accelerate learning
More effective pair/group work
Safe to make mistakes
Trust to be corrected by peers
Longer conversations

Communication

Rapport

Language
Acquisition

Communication

How to build rapport between students?

Games?

Fun

Not always educational

Sometimes time-consuming

How to build rapport between students?

- Authentic Communication
 - Difficult linguistically
 - Difficult emotionally
- Communication strategies
- Activities

Communication Strategies

Skills and expressions students use to solve problems
and understand each other

- **Interrupting** Excuse me, but...
- **Changing the topic** Anyways... Can we talk about something else?
- **Escaping** Sorry, I have to go
- **Giving compliments** (small talk) Nice ___!

Give students the tools they need
to navigate delicate, emotional, or personal topics

Communicative Activities (CLT)

Natural rapport builders

Should share unique experiences, preferences, opinions, emotions

- **Exposure to perspectives that are different from our own**
 - Broadens point of view
 - Students become more accepting of differences
- **Exposure to experiences that are similar to our own**
 - Helps students bond and feel less alone
 - Shared vulnerability builds trust

Communicative Activities (CLT)

Natural rapport builders

Should include unique experiences, preferences, opinions, emotions

- Cooperative learning (positive interdependence)
- Class surveys or information gap activities
- Small talk
- Journal writing (extensive writing)

Activities: Journal Writing

Ask questions about experience, opinion, or emotion related to the topic

Scaffold conversation

Journal Writing Steps

1. 1-2 min. silent planning
2. 5 min. timed writing, no stopping, no eraser
3. Chat with journal as a guide, no reading
4. Reflection and follow-up
5. Correct their own mistakes as HW

Journal Writing: Examples

Topic: Gender Issues

Prompts:

1. How are men and women similar or different to each other? Give examples.
2. If you could be born again, would you be a man, a woman, both, or neither? Why?
3. Imagine you are the opposite gender. Would you be different, or similar?
4. Have you ever experienced gender bias in the classroom? What happened? How did you feel? Why do you think it happens? What are the results?

* Gender Swap

22.8 vpr

137 words

6 min

Q. IF you were the opposite gender, what would you be like?
 → looks, hobbies, likes & dislikes, personality, safety

Safety — parents worried like 3JJB ... want be a fan of AKB...
 hobbies → DIY, going shopping personality → become more crazy

"
 If I were the opposite gender, I would have different hobbies, likes and personalities. Although now, as a girl, I have my favorite group I go to there concert so many times. However if I were a boy, I don't think I would be like that. I wouldn't be a fan of an idol group. I do care about them as a girl, but I feel like it's not the same. For hobbies as a girl, I like to go shopping. Also I like to stay in my house and just have relaxing time. However, I think I would get into DIY. (Do It Yourself) I quite like to make something, but I don't have the chance to make something big. Boys could make big boxes for clothes. For personality, I think I'll become more crazy. I always feel boys are crazier than girls because of my brother. My brother just doesn't know anything, and ask me or mum easy questions. That's why I think like that.

* Reflection

2-3 sent

Q. Why would you be so similar / so different as the opposite gender

- The way we are treated is different so I feel that male & female is different.
- The way of thinking is different.
- The way we are is different.

Journal Writing: Examples

Journal Writing Roleplay (adapted from *OC in English: Book 2*, John Howrey)

- Choose one side to a situation (partner has the other), write for five minutes from that point of view, debate, reflect
- Prompt 1: You are a parent and your son wants to play with a fashion doll.
A: You think it's okay. B: You think it's not okay.
- Prompt 2:
A: You are a parent and you think your daughter should help you do housework, and your son should not.
B: You are the daughter that is always asked to do housework.
- Reflection: Which opinion do you actually agree with? Why?

Gender Issue Roleplay

22.6 wpr

136 words 6 min

Mother

man - don't know ~~to~~ what to do
 → useless

girls - have to do
 → see mum's work
 → just because

I always ask my daughter ~~to~~ ^{to} help my housework. That's just because she is a girl. Woman will have to do housework in the future. So she should see her to cook, clean up, and raise children. Also girls see how what mothers do a lot, and they know what to do. The reason why I don't ask my son ^{for} help is that he just ~~don't~~ doesn't know what to do. I know that boys won't have to do housework so he don't need to learn it. Furthermore if he does the housework, he ~~do~~ know how, so I have to tell him. That is a waste of time. Boys don't see mothers' work as much as girls do. ~~So~~ I was taught that house work is the job for girls. Boys don't have to do that, ~~maybe~~

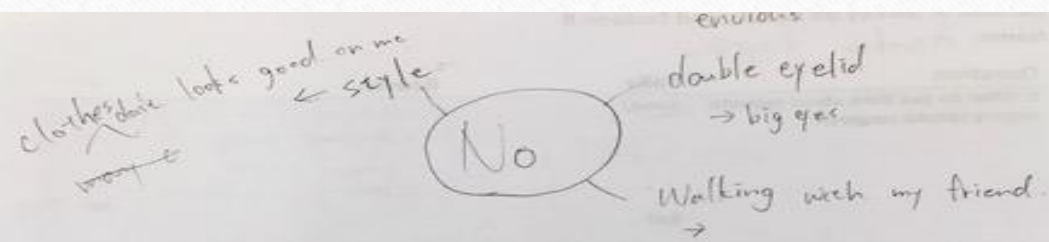
Q, what is your opinion of this issue?

I am the daughter who is always asked for help by ~~mother~~ my mother and grandma. My grandma always say "You're a girl" "Girls have to do housework" "Girls shouldn't be like that". However I just want to say it doesn't matter. I really hate being said like that. Now in the society some husbands do housework and a lot of woman work for comp. The time has changed. By the time goes, ~~and~~ situation changes a lot

Journal Writing: Examples

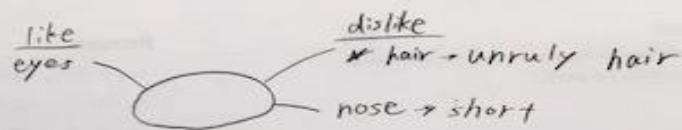
Topic: Beauty and Fashion

- Prompt: What do you like about your appearance? What do you dislike about your appearance? (Examples? Since when? Why?)
- Pair Chat
- Reflection:
 1. How did you feel during the chat?
 2. What did you learn from the chat?
 3. Was the activity useful?
 4. Were you surprised by how your partner felt about his/her appearance?



I don't like my looks. I have ~~two~~ ^{three} big reasons. First I don't have double eyelid. I think it ^{person} people have double eyelid ~~she or he~~ ^{she or he} may have big eyes. I am envious of double eyelid. Second I don't like my style. I like my height, it's not ^{very} tall and not very short - ~~but~~ I don't like my style. I have an ~~not~~ ^{not} ~~from 125cm~~ ^{from 125cm} so many clothes don't suit me. ~~If~~ ^{When} I ~~want to~~ ^{buy} ~~buy~~ ^{buy} ~~the~~ ^{what} I like I can't buy it because it doesn't suit ~~me~~. It's very bad ~~thing~~ for me. ~~Third I~~

- ① It's ok because I sometimes talk with my friends in Japanese but it was difficult to talk/write in English.
- ② I learned it's difficult explain my thinking.
- ③ Yes.
- ④ More people ~~think~~ thought the same reasons.



My appearance

I don't know that I like my looks. There are good or bad points. For example. ~~I dislike points~~ ~~My~~ My hair is unruly hair and my nose is short. But I like my eyes and my skin. When I watch beautiful girls in movie or TV, I want to be their. This is why I study ~~makeup~~ ^{makeup}. I want to be beautiful more.

- 1 I felt fun. I could listen many opinions.
- 2 I learned new vocabulary about appearance or
- 3 Yes. ^{From now on} I can talk about deeply topic with friend
- 4 Yes. I did. My friends had different opinion.

Journal Writing: Students' Reflections

- “I understood how my classmates felt.”
- “I was surprised that my partner didn't like how he looked. I thought he was confident.”
- “I realized that everyone has a complex.”
- “I thought about opinions that I usually wouldn't, because they were different from my own.”
- “I felt closer to my classmate.”