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ARTEFACTS TECHNIQUE BASED DRAMA

PHILOSOPHY LESSON

Artefacts technique is a typical drama technique for educational drama in the classroom. Students present objects creating associative links to the planned content-based story that will be developed later. It is necessary the objects to be selected so as to outline the characteristic of the subsequent story.

The students, divided in groups, are given the task of presenting the topic „What is time? “ This is a lesson included in the Philosophy curriculum for the 11th grade students. The students have to present the subject for a brief time through a series of upgrading events and emotions.

The students present various items – the yin-yang symbol, a puzzle, a wallet, an arrow, a clock and a photo. The objects are arranged in a certain sequence, which is not accidental. The goal is that students make an association to achieve the gradation of the different views of what is the time. The idea is to start from the simplest trivial associations (the time is nice or bad) and go through the personal positions and points of view on the issue (time heals, time is money) to reach new knowledge by examining some of the basic philosophical theories like the theory of Zeno that the time does not exist, the theory of Augustine for the present, and the theory of Kant that the time is a human form.

The key competencies this lesson addresses in the context of drama based on artefacts technique are communication in mother tongue and foreign languages, creativity and innovation in social context and cultural awareness and expression.

Other aims of using this drama technique are the achievement of higher educational outcomes, memorization and transformation of knowledge through associations between objects. The students have the freedom to study, explore and experiment both behavioral patterns, concepts, phenomena and events.

Through the educational performance and working in an atmosphere of free choice, creativity and imagination, each student realizes that he has an equal position, plays an important role in the overall process of putting the play and everyone is important to the others in the group. The social interaction develops trust in self and others. Emotional and friendly relationships are built between all members of the group.

Making creative choices, thinking of new ideas, and interpreting familiar material in new ways are essential to drama based on artefacts technique. Einstein said, “Imagination is more important than knowledge.”