

Journal

When I was thinking about what to plan for today's lesson I did not expect the success that the activity would have. At least for one of the groups. I planned a game for the students to get points. So I planned kind of an opportunity to obtain good grades and learn at the same time. The sad part is that just one group took advantage of that opportunity.

Lately 9A is giving me surprises. They are usually the group that misbehaves the most but when we played the game the students worked so hard, paid too much attention to the instructions and followed them closely, they respected the rules and very important for me, they respected each other in terms of turn-taking and the answers the partners offered. For instance, the students from one group and even the same group did not criticize their partner answers but they supported them. The one that I would say are the most difficult students were the one who participated the most and who answered correctly. I have to admit that I was a little bit scared at the beginning of playing that game because I know that that kind of activities make students get "crazy" and start misbehaving but they offered me another view of them.

Surprises kept coming when I went to 9C which is supposed to be a better group in terms of behavior and participation but they disappointed me so much today. First of all, they did not want to make groups, so I had to obligate them to. Then, they did not want to have a participant to go to the board and I had to start calling from the lists. But when they saw that they had to draw, everyone wanted to participate, especially the second group. I felt so surprised because this second group was conformed by the boys who misbehave the most but they were the ones who won the game by obtaining more points. I had to disqualify the third group because they did not respect rules and the first group was doing things just because they thought that I was going to give them a bad grade when I do not like doing that.

So, as I said at the beginning it was a day of surprises because students showed me a facet I did not know.

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