

Involving all: Secondary English

English (with Hindi)

Commentary:

In this secondary English class, a teacher takes care to involve all her students.

The lesson begins with the students dictating short paragraphs to one another. This gives them all the chance to speak and write in English.

Student 1: All the... wonderful things... that surround us in... this... world.

Student 2: And mountains and glaciers and all the other wonderful things that surround us in this world!

Commentary:

One of the ways the teacher involves all her students is to regularly check their understanding of her English instructions in Hindi. This ensures that no one gets left behind.

Teacher: Now all of you, we will exchange your role, OK? You have to exchange your role. Means? कोई बताएगा exchange करना - role को? क्या मतलब?

Student 3: Ma'am, एक कापी ma'am, हमको दे दिया। हमने इनको किताब दे दिया। ये ma'am बोलेंगी, हम लिखेंगे।

Student 4: That has ever been written. Only we must have eyes to see, and ears to hear!

Student 5: And...

Student 6: But the world... itself... is the...

Student 5: रुक जाओ...

Commentary:

A student in the class has no arms, but has learnt to write with his feet and is fully included in all activities.

Student interview:

I watched my neighbours' children study, and I thought, what if I write with my foot? So I started practising and after a while, I was able to write slowly.

The school has helped me a lot with my studies and I feel happy here.

Commentary:

In the next lesson, the teacher prepares her students to write a magazine article about a local village fair.

Teacher: Anybody can tell me? What is an article? What is it? What can understand?

Yes, Sushil, very good!

Student 5: Ma'am, जैसे हम लोग कहीं गए, कोई अच्छी चीज़ देखी; मेला या shopping करने

गए; उस चीज़ के बारे में हमने देखा, वहाँ से लौट कर आये; फिर उस चीज़ के बारे में हम लोग लिखते हैं, विस्तार से, उसे ही article कहते हैं।

Teacher: Yes, correct! Very good! Sit down.

Yes, he is right!

Commentary:

Notice how the teacher uses brainstorming to encourage as many students as possible, to contribute their ideas, providing a starting point for their writing.

Teacher: You have to tell, whatever you had done in your village fair. Whatever you have seen, and what you think about the village fair - you can tell me...

Commentary:

Think about a lesson you will be teaching.

How might you improve it, to ensure every student has the opportunity to participate fully?