

Re: Teaching and Learning English in Hong Kong

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From: Jim Walsh (jiSPm_walAMsh_iii_at_oOKperamNOail.com)

Date: 03/28/05

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On Sun, 27 Mar 2005 22:46:27 -0800, phippmartin thought carefully and wrote:

> *Jim Walsh wrote:*

>> *On Sun, 27 Mar 2005 06:45:31 -0800, phippmartin thought carefully and*

>> *wrote:*

>

>>> *.....Oh but when the weaker students start to understand, their*

>>> *motivation does pick up! I've certainly noticed that!*

>>

>> *They should "understand" from the very beginning. Good teaching and a*

>> *good syllabus should ensure that.*

>

> *Which is why I like to teach children from the very beginning. But even*

> *when you are teaching kids you get students who join classes in*

> *progress. It is the way bushibans work.*

>

> *When you say "from the beginning", I assume that means you are teaching*

> *young children then. All in all, I've had more experience now with*

> *older children and adults. It is a bit different.*

A slight majority of my students started to learn English elsewhere, but the majority of the students at my school started to learn English here.

The students at my school stay here for a long time, typically.

A few minutes ago I was discussing English with a student who is also a student at the First Girls High School. She came to my school as an elementary student.

Incidentally she came here because her mother was in one of my adult classes.

It is fair to say that she "started to learn" English here. At this moment she is fluent in English, uses a dozen verb tenses naturally, without thinking. She is preparing for the dreaded Uniform Joint College Entrance Exam, so she is also taking cram-for-the-test classes elsewhere. Frankly

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the "test passing tricks" she learns there are useful, albeit have nothing to do with English.

But when she has a question they can't answer, she comes to me.

BTW, I am thinking that the subject line should be changed. So I going to also post this as "Teaching and Learning English in Taiwan"

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Love, Jim

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