

Re: Teaching and Learning English in Hong Kong

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Jim Walsh <jiSPm_walAMsh_iii@oOKperamNOail.com> wrote in message

>

> *What do you say to a student who tries very hard but fails to understand?*

It depends a lot on the student and their particular situation (as I understand it). If the student seems to be trying and not getting results (as opposed to just blowing things off or having other urgent life issues that are getting in the way) it's some variant of :

"What you're doing now isn't working. Maybe we can find something that will work for you."

This is followed by a series of meetings where I try to find out how the student is going about things. I try to see if there are obvious things they're doing wrong and suggesting various other approaches they can try since different techniques work differently for different students (I also insist that they also see other teachers who I know who are good at helping students in academic trouble).

—michael farris