

Teacher ways to Engage Students in Learning Descriptive Text Through Online Learning

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Abstract. Online learning is learning that takes place over the Internet for a variety of learning purposes. The objectives of this study is to find out the ways of engaging students in learning Descriptive text through online grade VII of Junior High School students. A qualitative descriptive research design was applied and the data were gathered from the teacher and students' sentences during online learning. This study followed the theory of Young (2006) about the effectiveness ways of engaging students in online learning. The data of this study were collected by observation technique. Furthermore, the result showed that there were seven ways to engage students in learning descriptive text through online learning. They were: a) Adapting to student needs, b) Using meaningful examples, c) Motivating students to do their best, d) Facilitating the course effectively, e) Delivering a valuable course, f) Communicating effectively, and g) Showing concern for student learning.

Keywords: online learning, engagement, ICT, descriptive text

1. Introduction

Learning that takes place online does so via the Internet. There are two types of online learning: synchronous and asynchronous [1]. Participants in synchronized forms must communicate in person, connecting teachers and students through chat rooms or streaming audio. Asynchronous learning, on the other hand, enables students to access prepackaged software whenever they want, work at their own speed, and interact with a teacher or even other students via email or social media. Many applications, like Zoom, Google Meet, and others are already available without charge to promote effective learning processes. A good internet network and the use of those programs as online learning tools are two key components of effective online learning.

Engagement is crucial to student learning and satisfaction in online courses. According to [2], the goal of engagement techniques is to give students good learning experiences, which include possibilities for active learning including taking part in collaborative group projects, having students lead presentations and discussions, etc. Beside, teaching techniques have main role in engaging students during the learning process. Teaching technique is the implementation execution of what happens in the classrooms, [3]. It is a specific trick, plan of action, or tool that used achieve a certain goal. In other words, technique is a way to reach the idea in teaching. Good teaching techniques will aid instructors in presenting their content, and students will be more eager to learn.

The Nature of Online Teaching

Teaching online, according to [4] is delivering a course partially or fully through the internet, either through the Web or through mobile apps. It is delivered using platform which is connected to the internet network. Online is used to provide all types of topic information, as well as for communication, teaching, and test. Several applications, such as Google Classroom, Google Meet, Zoom, and Social Media can help this online teaching system.

The online teaching environment separates students and teachers physically. Physical separation means the learners and teachers are not in the same room. In fact, they can be at great distance geographically. Therefore, as [1] states that communication and interaction between teacher and students takes place through various technologies e.g., by e-mail, video, telephone, etc.

Engagement and Online Teaching

Because of the perceived lack of options for connection with the institution among online learners, student participation in online learning is crucial. Therefore, it is crucial to establish a variety of chances for students to engage in the online environment.

The engagement principle is simple and clear-cut: students learn more about a subject the more they study it, and students develop a better understanding of what they are studying the more they write and solve problems collaboratively and receive feedback from faculty and staff [5]. According to this concept, when students participate in learning activities like having a discussion or working together to solve a problem, it improves their understanding and encourages further participation in course activities.

Teacher's Ways of Engaging Students in Online Teaching

There are 7 ways in engaging students of effective online teaching [6] . They are as follows:

1. Adapting to student needs
At the most basic level, learners needs efficient equipment, such as computer, laptop, tablet, smartphone, which has access to the internet connection in order to complete the course. Besides, easy and convenient application is also students need during online learning. Besides, students need technical support from teachers when they experience problems while studying or doing assignments, as well as comfort with technology and good reading and writing abilities.
2. Using meaningful examples
Meaningful examples help students in making connections between the concepts presented and their personal experiences. The example can be meaningful if the concept presented can be associated with the knowledge the students already have. Such knowledge is called *prior knowledge* or schemata. The meaningfulness of the example is resulted from the ability of the students to make association between the example and their schemata.
3. Motivating students to do their best
Motivating the students to do their best can make them more engaged. Some ways to do this are encouraging students to speak up, to think or to share ideas, keep trying and learn to correct mistakes, and giving student's rewards.
4. Facilitating the Course Effectively
Facilitating the course is a teacher's strategy to assist students in acquiring, retaining, and applying knowledge and skills to achieve learning objectives. In order to engage

students in learning activities, the teacher must create a direct relationship with them. Teachers can utilize an appropriate application which is simple to use to carry out this activity. They can use group discussion or activities like role playing to help the students learn more effectively. Furthermore, teacher can create some questions to keep the discussion going, giving clarification, and assist online learners in connecting theories to practice.

5. Delivering a valuable course

An online teacher must design the course in advance, preparing materials, schedules, evaluations, and even discussion topics for the course. Teachers work hard to involve everyone in the learning activities. This includes creating an organized and pleasant classroom atmosphere as well as engaging with students on a consistent, thoughtful, and personal way. When students get a lot of benefit from an online course, its considered effective.

6. Communicating effectively

Two or more people sharing facts, ideas, views, or emotions is referred to as communication. Good communication between teacher and students in an online classroom has a big influence on student satisfaction and willingness to study. Giving clear and complete message is one way of making effective communication because such message enables the students to understand what were they expected to do as well as enable them to respond correctly.

7. Showing concern for student learning

Showing concern is a way to get students' participation so that they can be more effective in learning. This concern refers to a teacher's care of his students' understanding of a lesson. It can be realized by giving short summary at the end of lesson. Giving summary is believed to enable the students to get more understanding. Besides, teacher can provide opportunity for students to ask questions and work together in group in order to complete the task given by the teacher

2. Method

A descriptive qualitative research design was used to carry out this investigation. The data of this research are the teacher's and students' utterances in learning Descriptive text, the teacher's ways to engage students in online learning. These data came through teacher and student communication over the internet. Observational technique were used to get the data. In the meantime, field notes and videotaping were utilized to capture any material that was important for the study. In analyzing the data, the researcher used the theory that proposed by [7] which are data condensation, data display and verifying, and conclusion.

3. Result and Discussion

Table 1. The Percentages of the Teacher's Ways to Engage Students in Teaching Describing People and Describing Thing.

Numb	Ways	Teaching describing	Teaching describing
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		people		thing	
		Quantity	Percentages (%)	Quantity	Percentages (%)
1	Adapting to student needs	1	6.25	2	6.25
2	Using meaningful examples	3	18.75	4	12.50
3	Motivating students to do their best	2	12.50	7	21.88
4	Facilitating the course effectively	3	18.75	5	15.62
5	Delivering a valuable course	1	6.25	3	9.37
6	Communicating effectively	4	25	9	28.13
7	Showing concern for student learning	2	12.50	2	6.25
Total		14	100	32	100

Based on the data analysis of two topics, it was found that when teaching topic of describing people, the teacher applied those 7 ways. They were adapting to students' needs (6.25 %), using meaningful examples (18.75 %), motivating students to do their best (12.50 %), facilitating the course effectively (18.75%), delivering a valuable course (6.25 %), communicating effectively (25 %), and showing concern for student learning (12.50 %). Meanwhile, when teaching describing thing, the teacher also applied those 7 ways. They were adapting to students' needs (6.25 %), using meaningful examples (12.50 %), motivating students to do their best (21.88 %), facilitating the course effectively (15.62 %), delivering a valuable course (9.37 %), communicating effectively (28.13 %), and showing concern for student learning (6.25 %).

From the result, it could be stated that the seven ways of engaging students during the learning are very good to be applied in online learning. Those ways were completing each other. Every way provided some activities that can be done to make the students more engaged or more participated as long as the teaching learning process. Then, the teacher needs to be more imaginative. So that students are not bored while learning, the online instructor needs to use a range of strategies, methods, and approaches. By mixing amusing images, music, vibrant colors, and other engaging elements, teachers can create engaging learning materials.

4. Conclusion

Based on the analysis, it was found that there were seven ways of engaging students in learning descriptive text through online learning. Those ways were (1) adapting to student needs, (2) using meaningful examples, (3) motivating students to do their best, (4) facilitating the course effectively (5) delivering a valuable course, (6) communicating effectively, and (7) showing concern for students learning.

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