

Creating a positive learning environment

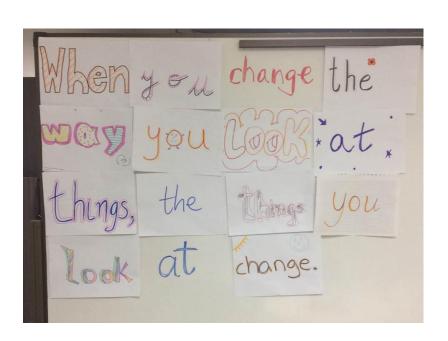
Edmund Dudley

Ibagué, 25 May 2018

Creating a positive learning environment



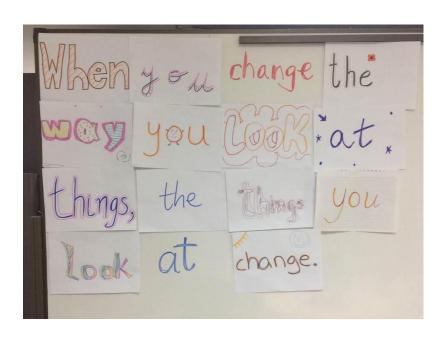
- The reflective practitioner
- Beyond language: hard skills and soft skills
- Mindsets
- Ideas to try out



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The Reflective Practitioner

Donald Schön (1983)



- Reflection-in action
- in-the-moment awareness
- ability to change course mid-lesson
- requires the ability to 'see yourself from above'
- Reflection-on-action
- after-the-storm reflection
- aims at changing future lessons
- can be individual or collaborative

Reflection-on-action



- Teaching journal
- Peer observation
- Action research

https://bit.ly/2CO7mhi



Here we go again!

The Groundhog Day factor







learning from experience



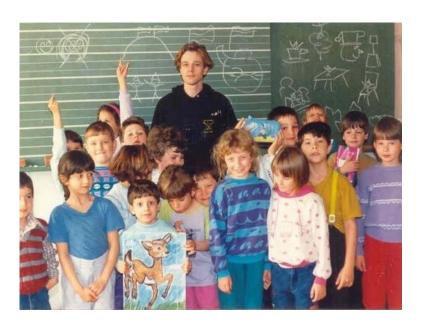


peer collaboration





There is a difference between *twenty years' experience* and one year's experience repeated twenty times...

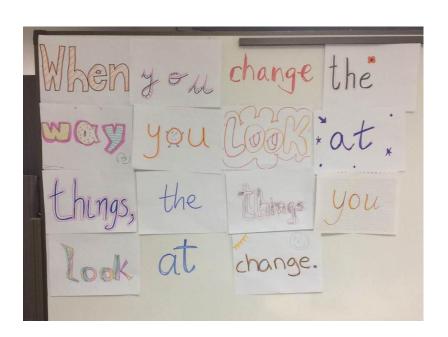




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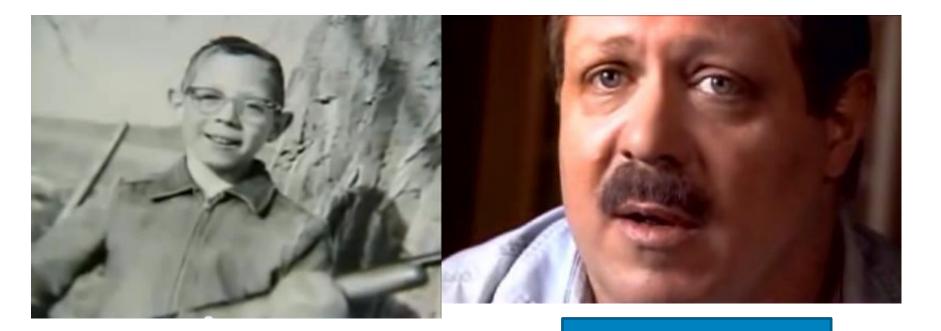


"It makes sense to think of the classroom as a miniature version of the world outside, in which success depends not only on gaining knowledge, but also on having social skills, values, and life skills."

Mixed-Ability Teaching **Edmund Dudley and** Erika Osváth OXFORD

Do you recognise this person?





Chris Langan

What makes Chris Langan extraordinary?



Talk to your partner.

Complete the sentence below:

Chris Langan has one of the

highest ___ in the world.



Christopher Langan

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Christopher Michael Langan (born March 25, 1952) is an American whose IQ was reportedly believed to be "between 190 and 210".^[1]

Christopher Langan

Born March 25, 1952 (age 65)

What does he do?





- Construction
- Farm-hand
- Ranch-hand
- Cowboy
- Firefighter
- Forest ranger
- Bouncer

- Teacher
- Lawyer
- Astronomer
- Army General
- Economist
- Professor
- Physicist





In addition to IQ, we also need **soft skills**:

- Emotional intelligence (EQ)
- Social skills
- Life skills
- Non-cognitive skills (curiosity, determination, courage...)





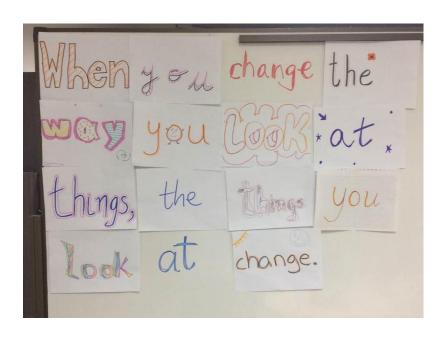




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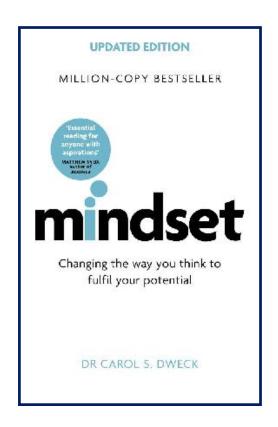


OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS

Mindsets

- Fixed mindset
- Growth mindset

Dr Carol S. Dweck Mindset





Success is a result of talent

Growth mindset

Success is a result of hard work



- Success is a result of talent
- Success and failure are identities

Growth mindset

- Success is a result of hard work
- Success and failure are provisional outcomes



- Success is a result of talent
- Success and failure are identities
- "You either have it or you don't"

Growth mindset

- Success is a result of hard work
- Success and failure are provisional outcomes
- "Everyone can improve over time"



- Success is a result of talent
- Success and failure are identities
- "You either have it or you don't"
- Tendency to avoid challenges

Growth mindset

- Success is a result of hard work
- Success and failure are provisional outcomes
- "Everyone can improve over time"
- See challenges as learning opportunities

The wrong kind of praise



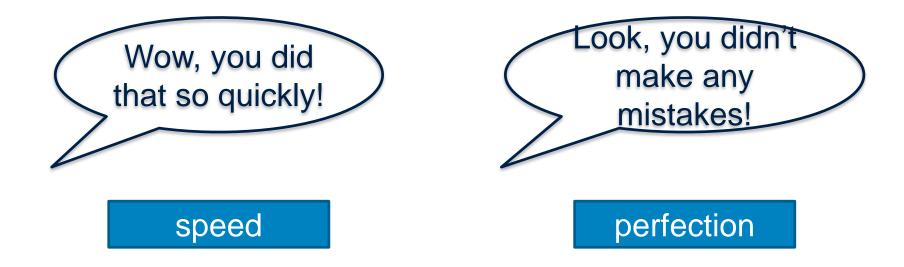
"After seven experiments with hundreds of children, we had some of the clearest findings I've ever seen:

intelligence Praising children's harms their motivation and it harms their performance." Dweck

The wrong kind of praise

The value of difficult learning





"Speed and perfection are the enemy of difficult learning."

Dweck

The right kind of praise

Process feedback



praise effort, not intelligence

"I can see that you have worked really hard at this — great job!"

accept setbacks as strategic opportunities

"Everyone works in a different way. Let's keep trying to find a way that works for you."

→ be positive; be truthful

Promoting a growth mindset

The role of honest feedback



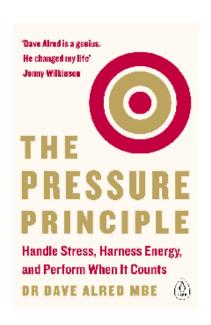
"When people believe their basic qualities can be developed, failures may still hurt, but failures don't define them." Dweck

- set appropriate challenges
- praise students for effort and attitude
- be specific
- use the language of work, not talent
- make use of the power of yet

Communicate positively



The problem with motivational team talks...











Communicate positively

In the classroom



Instead of telling students what they mustn't do...

No speaking L1!

No stupid mistakes on the test!

...tell them what you would like them to do, and why/how they can accomplish it.

Say it in English. You have all the words you need. Take your time.
Check your work
carefully when
you're done.





Weaknesses can either make you feel ashamed, or they can inspire you to grow and develop.

Become an elementary-level learner at something:

QUESTION WORDS	
Where?	Waar?
When?	Waneer?
Why?	Waarom?
What?	Wat?
Who?	Wie?
How?	Hoe?
How much/many?	Hoeveel?
Is/are there?	Is/Zijn er?

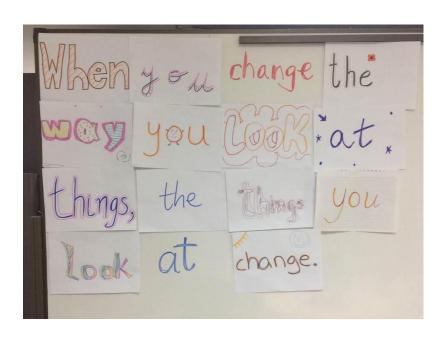




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Subjective map



Where would you write these words on the map?

- football
- music
- love
- beauty
- food

Now explain your choices.



English only - Any comments?









Mediated dialogue:

A: Asks questions in English

B: Answers the questions in Spanish

C: Interpreter

Topic:

What makes the lesson a 'positive experience'?



A second look at the picture



Speak, pass, or nominate

Giving students options



```
6 ACTIVATE Complete the sentences about sports for you.
Then talk about your answers with a partner.

1 I'm / I'm not good at ____.

2 I don't take part in ___ competitions because ___.

3 I like / don't like watching ___ on TV.

4 I can / can't beat my friend at ___.

5 I like / don't like playing team games because ___.

6 I enjoy / don't enjoy running a race.

I'm good at tennis and football. What about you?
```

SPEAK = I'm happy to answer

PASS = No thanks. Please ask someone else

NOMINATE = My friend here has a great answer...;)

Speak, pass, nominate

Some observations



- The majority of students choose to speak
- Students who pass have a sense of relief...
- ...which often leads to renewed confidence
- Nominated students can pass!
- Students appreciate being given options

Open-ended prompts

Scale of 1-5



- Where do you think this is?
- How sure are you (1-5)?
- 1: We have no idea. Let's say...
- 2: Our guess is that it's...
- 3: It looks a bit like... / It might be...
- 4: We're pretty sure it's...
- 5: That's definitely...

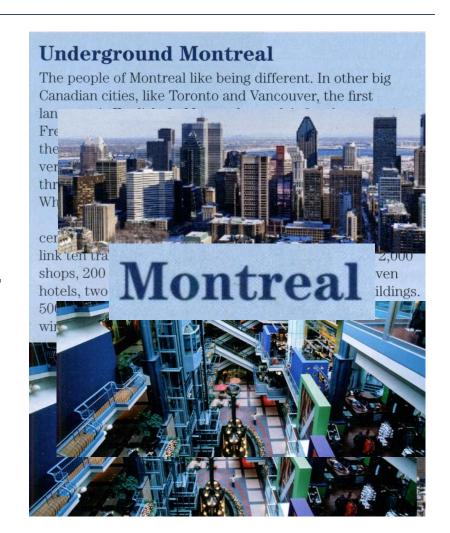






Predict the answers:

- 1. There is a lot of ____ in Montreal in the winter.
- 2. There are _____ between important buildings in the city.
- 3. ____ people use the system every day.

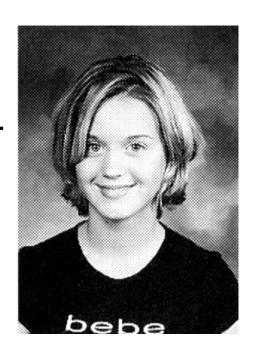






Can you identify the famous person?

- 1. I have no idea, but I'll say...
- 2. I don't know, but it could be...
- 3. I think it might be...
- 4. I'm pretty certain it's...
- 5. I'm 100% sure it's...

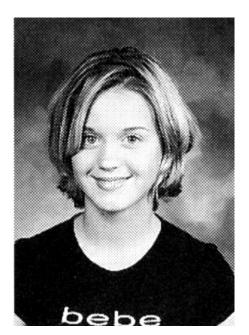






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Katy Perry



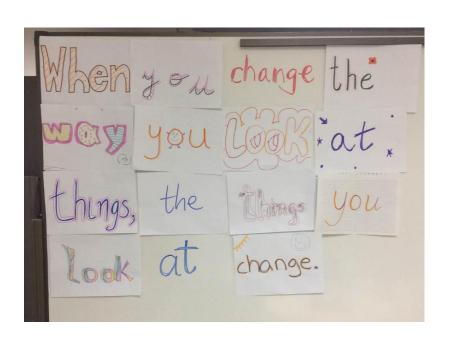
First to leave / Last to leave



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Slides here: legyened.edublogs.org



