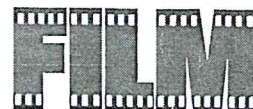


POTENTIAL PROBLEMS : Identifying Problems

Task 1 This section identifies some common problems in which teachers unintentionally hinder or prevent learning.

Study these 14 different 'problem' situations and match them with their appropriate headings on the grid handout.

- a) TEACHER: My instructions were so clear – but all the students did different things – none of them did what I asked them to do.
- b) TEACHER: Do you understand?
STUDENT: Yes...
- c) TEACHER: Did you like my lesson?
STUDENT: Yes
- d) TEACHER: Well, what I'm gonna to do is I'm gonna to ask you to get into pairs, but before that there are some things we've gotta work out. So just jot down if you've got a pen, could you write this, then when we have finished that we're going to do the next thing which involves more...
- e) TEACHER: So – what's the answer?
STUDENT: Only on Tuesday unless it's raining.
TEACHER: Yes, very good – so everyone got that. And why did he buy the elastic
band?
STUDENT: So he wouldn't lose his letters
TEACHER: Good. Everyone understands then!
- f) STUDENT: I think that smoking is ...
TEACHER: ...a bad thing. Yes, I agree. When I went into the pub...
- g) STUDENT: I went to the cinema.
TEACHER: You went to the cinema. Good.
You went to the cinema.
- h) TEACHER: So now what I'm gonna do is move my chair over here and sit down and just get comfortable and now I'm gonna tear up these pieces of paper, and I had to use these because I couldn't get any card, so I found these at the back of the teacher's room, and I'm gonna tear them up now and when I've done that what I'm gonna ask you to do is if you don't mind...
- i) TEACHER: So, if you don't mind, it would be very nice if you could just stop the activity if you feel that's ok.



- j) TEACHER: Yes, now you can ask her your question. Mmm, that's a good question. What do you think? What's your answer going to be Silvia? Yes. Go on – tell her what it is.
- k) TEACHER: When nothing else is happening in the classroom – I open my mouth. I've no idea what I say most of the time. But it stops those horrible silences. It's probably useful for them to listen to me speaking English. After all, I...
- l) STUDENT: I'm feeling bad. My grandfather he die last week and I am ...
TEACHER: No – not die – say he died because it's in the past.
- m) TEACHER: I wonder why they look so bored?
- n) TEACHER: I try to be nice – but my classes always seem so dull.
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