

48 Motivational Teaching Strategies Questionnaire

Below is a list of possible motivational strategies that some teachers use to motivate their learners. We would like you to decide how often you have used each strategy in your own teaching practice. Thank you for your help!

Please mark a tick or an 'X' in the appropriate blank on the continuum between 'Hardly ever' to 'Very often' (e.g. 1__ : 2_X : 3__ : 4__ : 5__). Please only tick one space and answer all the questions.

1. Bring in and encourage humour and laughter frequently in your class.

Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ **Very often**

2. Show students that you respect, accept and care about each of them.

Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ **Very often**

3. Create opportunities so that students can mix and get to know each other better (e.g. group work, game-like competition). **Hardly ever** 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ **Very often**

4. Familiarize the learners with the cultural background of the English language.

Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ **Very often**

5. Explain the importance of the 'class rules' that you regard as important (e.g. let's not make fun of each other's mistakes) and how these rules enhance learning, and then ask for the students' agreement. **Hardly ever** 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ **Very often**

6. Give clear instructions about how to carry out a task by modeling every step that students will need to do. **Hardly ever** 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ **Very often**

7. Invite senior students who are enthusiastic about learning English to talk to your class about their positive English learning experiences/successes.

Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ **Very often**

8. Monitor students' accomplishments, and take time to celebrate any success or victory.

Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ **Very often**

9. Regularly remind students that the successful mastery of English is beneficial to their future (e.g. getting a better job or pursuing further studies abroad).

Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ **Very often**

10. Encourage students to select specific, realistic and short-term learning goals for themselves (e.g. learning 5 words every day, write 3 sentences every day, listen to English for 5 minutes every day). **Hardly ever** 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ **Very often**

11. Design tasks that are within the learners' ability so that they get to experience success regularly. **Hardly ever** 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ **Very often**

More questions are on the next page

12. Introduce in your lessons various interesting content and topics which students are likely to find interesting (e.g. about TV programmes, pop stars or travelling).

Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ Very often

13. Make tasks challenging by including some activities that require students to solve problems or discover something (e.g. puzzles). **Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ Very often**

14. Teach the students self-motivating strategies (e.g. self-encouragement) so as to keep them motivated when they encounter distractions. **Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ Very often**

15. Make sure grades reflect not only the students' achievement but also the effort they have put into in the task. **Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ Very often**

16. Ask learners to think of any classroom rules that they would like to recommend because they think those will be useful for their learning. **Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ Very often**

17. Show your enthusiasm for teaching English by being committed and motivating yourself. **Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ Very often**

18. Break the routine of the lessons by varying presentation format (e.g. a grammar task can be followed by one focusing on pronunciation; a whole-class lecture can be followed by group work). **Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ Very often**

19. Invite some English-speaking foreigners as guest speakers to the class.

Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ Very often

20. Help the students develop realistic beliefs about their learning (e.g. explain to them realistically the amount of time needed for making real progress in English).

Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ Very often

21. Use short and interesting opening activities to start each class (e.g. fun games).

Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ Very often

22. Involve students as much as possible in designing and running the language course (e.g. make real choices about the activities and topics they are going to cover; decide whom they would like to work with). **Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ Very often**

23. Establish a good relationship with your students. **Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ Very often**

24. Encourage student participation by assigning activities that require active involvement from each participant (e.g. group presentation or peer teaching).

Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ Very often

25. Give good reasons to students as to why a particular activity is meaningful or important.

Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ Very often

More questions are on the next page

26. Try and find out about your students' needs, goals and interests, and then build these into your curriculum as much as possible. **Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ Very often**
27. Allow students to create products that they can display or perform (e.g. a poster, an information brochure or a radio program). **Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ Very often**
28. Encourage learners to try harder by making it clear that you believe that they can do the tasks. **Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ Very often**
29. Give students choices in deciding how and when they will be assessed/evaluated. **Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ Very often**
30. Create a supportive and pleasant classroom climate where students are free from embarrassment and ridicule. **Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ Very often**
31. Display the 'class goals' on the wall and review them regularly in terms of the progress made towards them. **Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ Very often**
32. Bring various authentic cultural products (e.g. magazines, newspapers or song lyrics) to class as supplementary materials. **Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ Very often**
33. Make clear to students that the important thing in learning a foreign language is to communicate meaning effectively rather than worrying about grammar mistakes. **Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ Very often**
34. Notice students' contributions and progress, and provide them with positive feedback. **Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ Very often**
35. Include activities that require students to work in groups towards the same goal (e.g. plan a drama performance) in order to promote cooperation. **Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ Very often**
36. Teach students various learning techniques that will make their learning easier and more effective. **Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ Very often**
37. Adopt the role of a 'facilitator' (i.e. Your role would be to help and lead your students to think and learn in their own way, instead of solely giving knowledge to them). **Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ Very often**
38. Highlight the usefulness of English and encourage your students to use their English outside the classroom (e.g. internet chat room or English speaking pen-friends). **Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ Very often**
39. Motivate your students by increasing the amount of English you use in class. **Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ Very often**

More questions are on the next page

40. Share with students that you value English learning as a meaningful experience that produces satisfaction and which enriches your life.

Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ Very often

41. Compare your students with each other in public (i.e. verbally praising one student more than the other students or by listing their grades in public).

Very Often 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ Hardly ever (note the switch of phrasing)

42. Encourage learners to see that the main reason for most failure is that they did not make sufficient effort rather than their poor abilities. **Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ Very often**

43. Make tasks attractive by including novel or fantasy elements so as to raise the learners' curiosity. **Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ Very often**

44. Encourage students to share personal experiences and thoughts as part of the learning tasks.

Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ Very often

45. Enrich the channel of communication by presenting various auditory and visual aids such as pictures, realia, tapes and films. **Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ Very often**

46. Show students that their effort and achievement are being recognized by you.

Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ Very often

47. Try to be yourself in front of students without putting on an artificial 'mask', and share with them your hobbies, likes and dislikes. **Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ Very often**

48. Give students opportunities to assess themselves (e.g. give themselves marks according to their overall performance). **Hardly ever 1__ : 2__ : 3__ : 4__ : 5__ Very often**

Finally, would you please answer the following short questions:

1. What's your gender? Male ___ Female ___

2. How long have you been teaching English (in years)? _____

3. Where do you teach? (you may tick more than one category) ___ university/college
___ senior high school ___ junior high school ___ vocational school ___ elementary
school ___ private lessons ___ other – please explain : _____

If you have any questions about the survey or are interested to learn more about the results, please contact the researcher: Trevor Pfahl. E-mail: tpfahl@yahoo.com

Thank you very much for your kind help and participation. I appreciate it!