My Teaching Philosophy

When I design my teaching:

I believe less is more, and simplicity is better than complexity. I also believe that anything learned with a smile stays for a while. So, **Learn-With-A-Smile** is what I try to accomplish everyday with my students.

Learn Chinese the SMILE Way

S- Systematically and intuitively organize and teach each lesson

Plan a lesson with the end in mind, and teach the basics the easy way. I wrote 200+ rhymes, poems, rhyming dialogues and skits, which contain great built-in memory devices, to help students learn Chinese. I also have designed all language exercises to support my students' learning.

M- Meaningful timely homework

I always make sure all homework I give to my students is relevant, timely and meaningful. I believe only high-quality homework assignments can help students learn. Not wasting students' time on meaningless homework is one of my top goals.

I- Integrating multiple intelligences

I have designed many class activities to engage students, fuel their motivation, and work with their learning curves. There is an ancient Chinese saying: "I hear and I forget. I see and I remember. I do and I understand." My goal, always, is to push active student participation at all stages of learning.

L- Lead by example - love for teaching leads to love for learning

I am the important ingredient in the classroom to help students develop the love and desire for learning. When I teach the subject enthusiastically, my students learn enthusiastically. When I offer my best effort to support their learning, they try their best to support my teaching. I treat each student as if he would be a genius in this subject, and soon he becomes one.

E- Evaluate students positively by going beyond the yes or wrong

I always encourage my students to make more mistakes at the beginning of their learning; I also make sure that they are not punished for venturing into a new intellectual territory. If they are not afraid of making mistakes, they are more willing to go beyond their "comfort zone" to explore, and they are more likely to become successful learners. I always return tests the day after they take them. So, my students will have a better chance to learn from their own mistakes.

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