Thoughts on teaching Large Classes: Four Tips and Four Activities

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I know exactly what I want to do with my life. I will not be getting a job that involves English, so I don't think I will use English.

… To be honest I don't really want to have a relationship with English. As long as we are in Japan, it is normal to use Japanese, I think.

I want to marry a rich man and become a rich housewife.
TIP 1: Be an *educator*, not just a teacher.

- Life-long effect on students
- Be a role model
- Learn from other teachers
- Play to your strengths (personality-wise)
Teacher Characteristics

- despot
- carer
- rebel
- charmer
Nice

Organized

TIP 2: Be organized

- Explain things clearly
- Establish routine
- Grade objectively and transparently
- Use learning journals
TIP 3: Communicate with each other

- Use activities/resources that involve, or are about, you.
Jules's Christmas Holiday

In the 1. break Jules got 2.

and stayed in 3. for six days ......
A wedding
June 13th, 2009

Yesterday I went to my friend’s wedding. It was held in Kyobashi, Osaka.
Akari wore a dress:

Her dad wore a suit:

And her mum (Satomi) hates being in photos, so I don’t have any photos of her. Here are the Bride and Groom:
TIP 3: Communicate with 

- Activities/resources that involve, or are about you
- Comments rather than corrections
- Learn Japanese
“serious topics would not attract university students these days” (Tsuyoshi Chiba, 2010)

“... children are spoilt. They have bad manners, contempt for authority, they show disrespect to their elders.... They contradict their parents, ... and are tyrants over their teachers."

(Socrates, 500BC)
TIP 4: Aim for a balance between fun and serious content.

- Content based learning. Young people care about important issues:
  
  HIV/AIDS; War; racism; sexism; Environmental Degradation; Water scarcity; Hunger; Malaria; Corruption; Abuse of human rights; Global warming.

- Choose a textbook that introduces serious, real-world issues.

- Choose stuff that inspires you.
TIP 1: Be an educator, not just a teacher.

TIP 2: Be organized

TIP 3: Communicate with each other

TIP 4: Aim for a balance between fun and serious content.
Part two: Four Activities

Halloween story

Dating game

Board game review

Picture stories
Halloween Story

Once upon a time ... ____________________

______________________________

______________________________

______________________________

______________________________

______________________________

______________________________

______________________________

THE END
Dating Game

1. Students create characters and profiles (equal number of “boys” and “girls”).
Misato Toyomura

- name: Toro
- age: 25
- from: Japanese
- married?: No
- job / company employee
- personality: gentle
- looks / a nondescript face
- dream: married!
- secret: 神秘的な秘密

I love you! Miho!
name: Nokomi
age: 5
from: Japan
job: kindergartner
married: no
personality: innocent
dreams: to become adult
secret:
name: Kome
age: 18
from: Korea
married: Yes.
job: cracker
personality: still
looks: large hair
dream: the conquest
of the world
Secret:
He has many girlfriend.
He is wearing a toupee.

Saiya
name: Hanako, Yamada
age: 20
from: Japan
job: a college student
personality: quiet
looks: dirty
secret: single mother
Dating Game

1. Students create characters and profiles (equal number of “boys” and “girls”).
2. Students practice introducing their characters.
3. Brainstorm useful questions together.
4. Play the dating game. In groups of 10-12, girls stay put. Boys circulate. 2 min. time limit.
5. Put sheets on desks. Find their favorite character. Write their name on their own sheet. Hand to me.
5. Do an extension activity (while I find the couples).
6. Introduce the couples to the class.
Board Game Review
Wallace AND Gromit

Pit!

Go to Start...!!
Picture story

1. Students make a picture story and write a script to go with it.

2. Teacher takes pictures and loads them onto computers.

3. Students use photo editing software to make a slideshow

4. Add the script plus music/sound effects etc.
Thanks for listening!

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