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**Winter - Spring 2011, Shaping Chile Networks  
University of Oregon, American English Institute  
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**Action Plan Project for “Shaping the Way We Teach English”**

In this online course, we are focusing on new teaching techniques and resources. Choose one technique or classroom innovation that you would like to incorporate into your class, and develop an action plan (below) for accomplishing this. Please give as much detail as possible.

**Date Created: 6/5/11**

**Class: 10<sup>th</sup> graders**

**Name of Action Plan Creator: Milko Andres Ramirez Olave**

**Number of Students: 23**

**New teaching techniques or ideas I plan to use: Group work, collaborative and cooperative learning, multilevel activities, alternative assessment for ESL students, project-based learning.**

**Language Level: between level 1 and 2 of proficiency**

**My Class Now**

- My students in this specific course are very quiet. They are very shy when trying to utter a phrase in English, and their English proficiency is between level 1 and level 2.
- Some of them just identify isolated words and have difficulties to connect ideas and thoughts.
- The ones who are more “advanced” in English help me to translate what is taught in the classes.
- They prefer working individually rather than working in groups.
- They have some discipline problems.
- Six of them are special needs students; that is, students with learning disabilities such as Developmental Dyslexia, problematic social relationships, Dysgraphia, among others.

**My Class in the Future (My Vision)**

I expect that my students will develop more self-confidence. They will fully understand instructions of the teacher in English. Students will be able to answer questions and create questions in order to create short and simple dialogues. Improve their collaborative and cooperative learning in group work.

### Additional Explanation from Action Plan Creator

In “My Class in the Future (My Vision)” above, you described a change you would like to see happen in your class. Provide additional information for the following related items. Write as though you are informing a person who knows nothing about your educational setting.

1. **The benefits I predict from this change:** Students will develop more self-confidence, so when they have to perform or give an oral presentation in front of their classmates, they will be more confident and with less anxiety. Sometimes they don't understand class instructions in English. I used to give the instructions in English and Spanish, but in the near future I expect from them to understand class instructions completely in English. I also expect that my students will be able to produce language, creating questions and answering questions in a proper way, for example, creating short dialogues by themselves. I really need to create instances of collaborative and cooperative learning in classes, so students will be more independent, and classes will be not teacher-centered but student-centered.
2. **Challenges I expect:** As most of my students are between level 1 and level 2 of English proficiency, some of them just understand isolated words and the more advanced ones speak or understand with difficulty. I need to create more interactive lessons that encourage students to produce speaking and writing. Due to the fact that I have some students who have special needs, I need to create tasks and lessons that fulfill their needs so none will be left behind. As students tend to be passive, I will need to create group work activities that allow them to be more independent.
3. **How I will address those challenges:** Creating challenging activities that enhance their learning and fits students' needs, teaching them more vocabulary words. For this I plan to make vocabulary quizzes every week. Group work is needed and we need to use technology as well, so I will make them create a TV spot parody. They have to recreate a TV spot making it funny; they will have to film themselves emulating those TV ads. The teacher will give them 10 TV spots to choose from. They have to upload it to a blog created especially for this event, and post a comment on their classmates' videos (at least 2 comments).
4. **Steps and timeline (schedule) for completing the change:**  
Based on classes of 90 min two times a week.  
Long-term changes will be assessed at the end of the year.

First week	How to create a blog, how to use the basic tools (how to post and comment) Upload a post on their personal blogs. Vocabulary about internet
Second week	Evaluation of vocabulary They will read an article about “The effects of the media in our lives”; students will have to make groups and discuss the subject in question, mention the advantages and disadvantages of the media, and then present in front of the classroom their conclusion. Post their conclusion on their own blog Vocabulary about media

Third week	<p>Evaluation of vocabulary</p> <p>Present the rubric for the evaluation of the TV spot parody, and give specific details about the project, for example what types of cameras can they use, samples of how they can do it, etc.</p> <p>The teacher will show them the TV ads they can use; also the teacher will give them the script of each TV ad.</p>
Fourth week	<p>In this class students must upload their videos and post it on their blogs, and post a response to at least 2 of the videos uploaded by their classmates.</p>
<p>Some other changes are long-term changes such as understanding instructions completely in English, and creating questions and answers. Some of these changes are expected to be accomplished by the end of the year.</p>	

5. **How I will assess the degree of success of the change:** To assess this project I will use a rubric; also a peer evaluation will count. The total change at the end of the year will be assessed with a rubric that evaluates behavior, class participation, and attitude toward work group.