

Mr. Derek
Observation Report 7/4-7/8

MONDAY 7/4
Ray class (Ms. Masande)

Activity: Present on one city in your given country. Ms. Masande assigned countries to groups, explained the project, got their phones, and got the students started. Unfinished projects were assigned as HW for presentation on Thursday (after testing). Check CD stickers 1st thing every day. 20+ equals completion and the class with the highest average gets a pizza party the following week.

Students: John Lee, Justin, Jace, Louis, Isaac, Sally, Binnie, Jean, Joseph, Lia (absent). Ms. Masande explained that Sally and Binnie are the youngest girls and therefore usually work together. Jace and Joseph are the youngest boys and struggle the most with the material. Unlike the girls, they don't ask many questions. Jace needs extra attention as he will frequently misunderstand directions and do poorly on grammar. John Lee is quite talkative and Justin is probably the highest level in the class.

Love R&W (Mr. Patrick)

Activity: Book chapter on phobias. What stood out was Mr. Patrick's use of cold calling to involve everyone in the activities. He also had them write in their journals for 10 minutes, to be collected on Friday for grading. He gave several examples from his own life relating to the material and asked the students to do the same.

Students: same as Ray class minus Sally and Louis.

Obedience L&S (Mr. Patrick)

Activity: New chapter on golden years and longevity. Mr. Patrick used plenty of warm up to get the students thinking and speaking about the topic before opening their books. After discussing longevity, he transitioned to hobbies for the elderly and had Jun write the other students' brainstorming ideas on the board.

Next came the listening passage followed by comprehension questions. Ended with another listen to the passage and pair work on a matching activity.

Students: Daniel, Holly, Louis, Jason, Jun, Debbie (absent). Everyone did great work except Holly, who seemed irritated and tired. Mr. Patrick had to give him extra attention to keep him on task.

Koala (Ms. Annie)

Activity: This was open house practice. Ms. Annie enforced the rules and had to start over with several activities, possibly because the students were thrown off by my presence. Ms. Annie did a great job of clearly enunciating and pointing during the stories, keeping the students active but not overstimulated, and congratulating the four students who finished their REP calendars in front of the class.

Students: Jaden, Jennifer, Sarah, Alex, Eliana. Jaden is clearly very smart and gets bored easily. Alex is the lowest level and has difficulty reading. Eliana was quite emotional and did not want to participate. Ms. Annie tried to get Eliana to participate but she refused. Ms. Annie showed that this is ok sometimes and didn't push her too hard. Jaden was acting out in the beginning but got back on track with a little time in the corner.

Lion (Ms. Masande)

Activity: Lion class is very smart and gets bored with the material easily, so Ms. Masande challenged them to come up with new answers in the story "What Else Can I Do?" She divided the roles and asked comprehension questions for every activity. She also repeated their mistakes for them to fix. This class loves to talk and be challenged, so the key is preparing lots of related questions and activities to keep them stimulated.

Students: Sarah, Erica, Joseph (absent), Sophie, David, Lucy, Sam, Jenny, Grace. While Sam's reading ability seemed a bit lower, the class as a whole is extremely sharp and impressive. They'll need lots of extra challenges.

Giraffe (Mr. Arthur)

Activity: What stood out here was Mr. Arthur's ability to easily transition from one activity to the next with comprehension questions, action activities, and extra challenges. He varied between having the boys and girls speak or sing without forcing them to participate. Other challenges: reading backward for speed, cup with names for random participants, and having them come up to the board and point. Also used laminated items to have them distinguish different drinks.

Students: Jasmine, Jacob, Justin, Timothy, Grace, Olivia, Kevin, David. David seemed like a bit of a troublemaker, and Olivia also wouldn't listen occasionally. That being said, they all loved to participate and enjoyed Mr. Arthur's extra questions. He did a great job of asking them if they wanted to do something, rather than always forcing them.

TUESDAY 7/5

Rabbit & Pony (Ms. Annie)

Activity: What stood out for this class was Ms. Annie's ability to start different exposures over as needed as well as offer gentle corrections. She was also constantly doing slightly different repetitions of the same material, such as having half the students singing while the others act out the verbs followed by switching. She also put a lot of effort into modeling pronunciation and watching the students as they spoke.

Students: Daniel, Harold, Kevin, Jeremy, Selina, Leo. So cute and energetic. Love activity and singing. No real problems, obviously very engaged in the class.

Deer (Ms. Hanna)

Activity: A lot of the material focused on "what is this?" as well as colors and making words plural. Several times Ms. Hanna would do the reading while having the students say the animals and the vocab words like big, small, long, and short.

Students: Say, Bona, Ryan, Ethan. Ethan was pretty distracted and had trouble sitting still, but did answer some of Ms. Hanna's questions correctly. Ryan had a great day and seems to love singing. Bona also did well while Say was fairly distracted and wanted to yell a lot.

Koala (Ms. Annie)

Activity: The students were in a better mood today and had a lot of fun with the material. Ms. Annie had to stop a couple times to go over the rules, but the students did great. She asked several questions after each material, such as Bear's Picnic. They loved the games at the end of class and each student got a chance to count down or otherwise be in charge of the corner game.

Students: Eliana did much better today. Jaden did well with the more difficult questions and concepts, and Alex kept working on his pronunciation. Sarah was pretty hyper but followed her teacher's directions. Jennifer was very enthusiastic and engaged.

Dolphin (Mr. Arthur)

Activity: Mr. Arthur checked the students' progress with memorization by going through the stories one word at a time while covering the words. He also had them come up and be the teacher for one activity each. They also did readers and writers toward the end of class. This corresponds with the HW and helps them memorize the material before the test.

Students: Andy, Caleb, Caroline. Very rambunctious and sweaty from running before class. Andy just got his cast off and couldn't stop fiddling with his feet. Did the work well but seemed fairly distracted today.

Giraffe (Mr. Arthur)

Activity: What stood out today was the Lazy, Zippy, and Zoom story focused on past tense and using articles. Mr. Arthur's questions got them to repeat lines from the story. He divided up the roles in Ned, Ted, and Red and asked questions from the viewpoint of the characters. They ended by practicing for the test on Friday.

Students: Most of them were very silly today, especially Olivia and Grace. Grace, the youngest, lost focus easily and wouldn't read normally. Mr. Arthur asked her to stay after to talk about it. The older boys did better, especially Timothy and David. They're able to focus longer and even sometimes correct or chide the younger students.

WEDNESDAY 7/6

Swan (Mr. David)

Activity: What stood out here was Mr. David's ability to use action activities to burn off some of the students' energy and use the other activities to reinforce grammar and vocabulary. He used some of his extra socks to demonstrate too big/too small. He also focused on emphasizing plurals throughout the class.

Students: Hannah, Jaden, Jasmine, June, and Leo responded really well to acting out the vocabulary. Jaden used a full sentence without assistance and Mr. David gave him a star for it. Leo is mischievous and needs a little extra attention. The key seemed to be giving these students plenty of opportunities to move around.

Peacock (Mr. David)

Activity: Mr. David made several modifications to the material to keep the students engaged. For “Jam, Jam” he picked one or two students at a time to read and corrected their pronunciation as needed. He always used at least a couple comprehension questions after finishing an activity. For the writers, he checked their handwriting and circled pages with red pen. He also gave plenty of compliments for correct answers and good behavior.

Students: Ray, Angie, Simon, Lindsey, Jamie, and Noah. While still young, this class had relatively less energy and Mr. David matched it. They’re all very well behaved. Ray was a bit quieter and Mr. David occasionally gave her extra encouragement.

Lion (Ms. Masande)

Activity: Ms. Masande used a lot of challenging questions because the students know the material so well. She would often divvy up the roles from the stories and then ask comprehension questions. She was always listening for imperfect sentences. She also had them come up to the board at one point to write their sentences on the board.

Students: Sarah, Erica, Sam, David, Sophie. Sarah is the oldest and is able to answer the most challenging questions. Erica seemed like the lowest level and needs the most help with pronunciation and sentence construction.

Giraffe (Mr. Arthur)

Activity: Mr. Arthur had each of the students teach a particular activity, followed by his questions. He also used fruit laminates with rhyming words to play a game and lead into “Could you, should you.” They used their writers for ~20 minutes.

Students: Only Timothy, Jacob, Justin, and Jasmine came today. Jasmine was particularly shy and Justin cried because he had lost his phone. Jacob and Timothy answered almost all of the difficult questions.

THURSDAY 7/7

Ray (Ms. Masande)

Activity: The class didn’t do presentations as no one, or almost no one finished their HW. Ms. Masande gave them all one more day to complete it. She reminded them to check the mistakes

in their journals because they keep making the same. The rest of the class was spent on grammar revision.

Students: I'm impressed by their ability to ask for help when they need it, except for possibly Jace and Joseph. Those two need to be checked on more. Lia is younger and lower level but able to ask for help. Justin's level is very high.

Obedience (Mr. Patrick)

Activity: They began by reviewing longevity and with a short debate on immortality. Next was a listening passage. Mr. Patrick would play a little bit, ask some questions, and continue. He then had them work with a partner on discussion questions.

Students: I was impressed by Daniel and Jason's ability to answer complex questions and by their vocabulary. Holly was a bit unfocused and Debbie was sleepy. No major problems, overall this class seems able to do high level work.

Love (Mr. Patrick)

Activity: After warmup, they worked on their journals for ten minutes. The question was "How will you celebrate the end of test week?" Followed by discussion. They then continued their book work on phobias. Mr. Patrick asked lots of extra questions to get them thinking creatively and not just tied to their books the whole time.

Students: As with Ray class, Jace needed extra help and started working on the wrong page for one of the activities.

Peacock (Mr. David)

Activity: Today was a game day, so Mr. David worked in plenty of academically themed games. He stopped what they were doing twice to correct Jamie and Simon's behavior.

Students: Jamie and Simon argued and bumped into each other several times. Otherwise, everyone was excited to play games and acted nicely.

Dolphin (Mr. Arthur)

Activity: It was tougher for Mr. Arthur to get through the material today because the students were tired and pretty unmotivated. They did Readers, Writers, and the unit materials. Mr. Arthur had to change strategies after they were too silly to act out the Ned, Ted & Red story. He got

them back by gently but firmly correcting their behavior and getting them to do their Writers to practice for tomorrow's test.

Students: Caroline faded pretty quickly and kept expressing her distaste for Writers. Caleb was pretty talkative and silly today. Mr. Arthur talked with Caroline for a minute after class as she wasn't listening very well.

Giraffe (Mr. Arthur)

Activity: Mr. Arthur made sure to ask follow up questions after the Reader story. He spent more time on their Writers to prepare for the test tomorrow. They occasionally got sluggish so he had them stand up to do That Hat and the Sharing Song. He also had them come up one at a time to describe the vocabulary words and have the other students guess.

Students: The boys did very well while the girls were struggling to pay attention. Olivia in particular seemed to be in a bad mood and zoned out a lot. Grace was also too tired. Jacob, Timothy and David clearly love to participate.

FRIDAY 7/8

Ray

Activity: Class presentations on foreign countries today. Most groups did very well and obviously prepared. Joseph and Jace had the shortest presentation, and the audience was usually too shy or uninterested in asking their own questions.

Students: Justin and Isaac were the least prepared. Ms. Masande took Isaac outside for a chat because he kept making excuses and laughing off why he wasn't prepared.

Rabbit & Pony

Activity: Practiced for open house today, so it was very fast. Ms. Annie put emphasis on final consonants and gave pretty regular compliments to the students. She also used lots of props like the bear family, a box, and a chair.

Students: Everyone was very active and engaged except for Bart, who kept drifting off and not participating. Overall excellent and well behaved group.

Lion

Activity: Ms Masande used the example of a trust fall to show how friends care for each other. She divided the story roles for the two stories She also used the example of the new Iron Girl to warm up the class and to bring it up again for Think and Write in their Read/Write. They took their test and continued working on page 71 of Read/Write.

Students: This class is very friendly and comfortable with each other. There aren't any obvious weak links. They do great with challenging questions and have amazingly positive attitudes.

Giraffe

Activity: Started with the HW memorization test. Grace, Olivia, Justin, and Kevin really struggled with it. The length of the passage they needed to memorize was too difficult. They then used their Read/Write to first read together, then read individually, then answer questions.

Students: Olivia's mood didn't recover after the test. David, Timothy, and Jacob benefitted from extra, challenging questions posed by Mr. Arthur while the others were still working on their Read/Write.

SUMMARY for week 7/4-7/8 GHS and FC classes

Ray: This class has several high-level students, including Justin, John Lee, Louis and Jean. Joseph, Jace, Lia, Sally, and Binnie are younger and lower level. Isaac got quite discouraged and needed to have a chat with Ms. Masande about what was going on. The class uses a combination of book work and extra projects for its material. This week, for example, they prepared and presented posters on foreign countries to supplement the chapter on hometowns.

Love: Consists of John Lee, Justin, Binnie, Jean, Jace, and Isaac (almost the same as Ray class). This class also uses journals, usually done at the beginning of class and collected on Fridays for grading. Mr. Patrick used lots of extra questions to supplement the book work and challenge the students to think creatively. The unit this week covered longevity. The class is very diligent and well behaved, although I'll keep an extra watchful eye on Isaac given his struggles in Ray class.

Obedience: Students are Daniel, Debbie, Holly, Louis, Jason, and Jun. They are impressively high level, especially Daniel and Jason. Holly gets distracted easily but will do the work when asked to. Mr. Patrick used lengthy warmups to get them thinking before they open their books. They don't always raise their hands a lot, so he also used cold calling regularly to get everyone to participate. They did group brainstorming, pair work, and listening passages every day.

Lion: Joseph, Grace, Sarah, Lucy, Sam, David, and Jenny are in this class. Lion class is very positive, high energy, and high level. The oldest, Sarah, has particularly impressive aptitude and benefits from challenging questions. Everyone in this class is capable of doing high level work. I

imagine they learn the material very quickly, so I'll have to find many different and challenging ways of presenting it.

Dolphin: Andy, Caleb, and Caroline are in this class. Their energy levels can vary a lot from day to day or even in one class. Since they knew the material so well near the end of the semester, Mr. Arthur had them teach one activity each per class. Caleb got an award for REP. They also spent a lot of time on their Readers/Writers. The boys seemed ok with this, but Caroline always expressed how much she doesn't like that work. Mr. Arthur gently encouraged her but also had to have her stay after to talk one day.

Giraffe: Grace, Olivia, Kevin, Jasmine, David, Timothy, Justin, and Jacob are in this class. Grace, Olivia, and Jasmine are the youngest and lowest level. Olivia gets upset quite frequently and Grace loves to be silly. Justin loses focus easily. David, Timothy, and Jacob are the oldest and a higher level than the rest of the class. They need more challenges. This class responds well role playing the stories, asking each other questions, and singing. The girls seem to dislike doing their Read/Write.