

TEACHERS PHYSICAL PRESENCE IN CLASS: BODY LANGUAGE AND TONE OF VOICE

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Annotation: This research paper examines teachers' physical and nonverbal qualities while conducting the lesson. The power of body language and its preliminary types are defined with examples; moreover, tone of voice and its three basic categories are analyzed with situations.

Keywords: Facial expression, gestures, body orientation, movement, touch, eye contact, formal, informal, and casual.

“Your body communicates as well as your mouth. Don't contradict yourself.”

- Allen Ruddock

Teachers' physical presence during the lesson play a crucial role in leading offline classes at several educational establishments. It goes beyond simply being in the classroom, as it impacts student engagement and learning environment as well. The actions of every instructor greatly influences on student participation, since teachers' body language speak more powerfully compared to words. It is a nonverbal language that affects classroom dynamics and student learning by silently expressing attitudes, emotions, and even confidence levels.

Body Language in the Classroom:

- **Facial expression** – types of emotions such as happiness, surprise or anger.
- **Movement** – both teachers and students may move in different ways, romping or twitching.
- **Touch** – shaking hands in a firm way which means confidence or professionalism.
- **Body orientation** – facing students, moving around the room, controlling the class.
- **Eye contact** – direct gaze, scanning students; this is very essential while offering feedback, asking questions, clarifying the given answer during one-to-one conversation or group activities.
- **Posture** – how the leader of the class stands (tall usually) or sits controlling body parts, because it reflects confidence and authority.

- **Gestures** – movement of the hands like waving or pointing. To exemplify, illustrators, emblems, regulators, and adaptors.



Picture 1 Encoding and decoding body language

Why is tone of voice so important during the lesson?

The tone of voice is generally defined as the way you speak to someone. It is one of the powerful nonverbal tools which refers to quality, pitch, volume, rhythm, and intonation of the speech. It shows several feelings and attitudes. There are several types of voices which include shouting voice, nasal voice, shaky voice blocked nose voice, monotone voice, airy voice and etc. They fall into three main dimensions:

- **A formal tone** – a tutor sticks to the third-person point of view. This style is usually appropriate for lectures (informational purposes).
- **An informal tone** – this type of tone is conversational, mostly used in group discussions, storytelling, and feedback sessions.
- **A casual tone** – it is personal and teachers use in icebreaker activities, building rapport and Q&A sessions.

The age of the audience you choose will have a significant impact on your choice in this area. **The tone of voice show emotions and can create sentimental feeling in the students. For instance, you may come across with:**

Happy or sad
Optimistic or pessimistic
Threatening or welcoming

Enthusiastic or matter-of-fact
Fearful or hopeful

It's critical to develop a consistent tone of voice in the field of teaching, as it controls the lesson process and how learners accept the topic from teachers. Being capable of controlling the pace at which we talk can help us to deliver the appropriate tone to the receiver.

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