獲創新教育獎的教學實踐

Teaching practices presented with the Award for Education Innovation



創新教育獎

Award for Education Innovation

Teacher presented with the Award for Education Innovation
Ms AU Pik-yan

School
Alliance Primary School, Whampoa



▲Ms AU Pik-yan

Interview with the Teacher

Embracing Innovation:
Creating Engaging and Meaningful Learning Experiences

Step into Ms AU Pik-yan's English classroom at Alliance Primary School (Whampoa), and you will find a room charged with curiosity. Here, lessons have become captivating challenges, and students participate with infectious enthusiasm. This exceptional environment is intentional, built on Ms AU's belief that true English learning begins with joy.

Ms AU's path to education was far from conventional. Initially pursuing a degree in accounting, she spent her university years tutoring primary students during her spare time - an experience that offered her a firsthand look at how daunting learning English could be. "I realised students didn't dislike English itself; they disliked the rigid reliance on textbooks and worksheets," she reflected. Driven by a passion to transform that perception, she made a decisive career pivot, obtaining a Postgraduate Diploma in Education to follow what proved to be her true calling. "It became my core mission: to share the genuine joy of mastering this rich and expressive language."





▲►The classroom is decorated as a crime scene

Creating innovative and fun lessons

When she talked about her teaching philosophy, she didn't reach for rules. Instead, she named her "five elements" in teaching: "fun, authenticity, context, technology and inclusiveness". "I can't squeeze all five into every single lesson," she admitted. "But I design creative units that weave them together." One favourite

still lives in her students' memories, a "detective lesson". She pretended to lose her watch, then invited the class to crack the case. Desperate to help a teacher they love dearly, the students used the target language structures naturally to find the culprit. "They didn't see it as an English lesson at all. They thought it was their mission to help their class teacher. Applying their language skills in authentic and meaningful ways is my ultimate goal."

Innovation that accommodates learners' diverse needs

To Ms AU, innovation is born from the continuous loop of facing obstacles, learning from setbacks and using that adversity to drive a stronger comeback. She recalled a lesson on finding the main idea, built around a treasure hunt that simply fell flat. Deflated, she could have given up but she did not. The next day she adapted the learning material and assigned the class with a more challenging task, and this time the students' competitive spirit caught fire. Eyes lit up. Hands flew. That willingness to stumble has kept her moving forward.

Moving with the times

Always looking ahead, Ms AU incorporated artificial intelligence into her Primary Four classroom. In a unit on "Life in the Future", she created a character named Yovee, a time traveller, with whom students interacted in a series of creative lessons. From asking the character questions about the life in 2062 via an AI chatbot, to reading a self-developed AI generated storybook about Yovee's adventures in Hong Kong, opportunities to use the language skills were meticulously interwoven in Ms AU's English lessons.

A milestone, not a finish line

Viewing the award as fuel rather than a final achievement, Ms AU remains steadfast in her path. "This recognition has provided renewed momentum to elevate my practice," she remarked. For the purpose of enhancing the effectiveness of learning and teaching, she aspires to foster a culture where growth happens outside the comfort zone.



▲Ms AU is sharing her innovative ideas with her team





▲ ▶ Every lesson is filled with joy and laughter

Teaching Philosophy

My teaching aims to empower students to become self-driven and competent learners of the 21st century. I use time-honoured pedagogies together with student-centred and innovative approaches to make English language learning authentic, fun and memorable for my students.



Watch video

Teacher's Sharing

Treating innovation as an adaptive cycle of continuous experimentation, reflection and improvement, I view myself as a "Learning Architect", designing my pedagogical frameworks around five key elements: fun, authenticity, context, inclusiveness and technology. I aim to complement and elevate time-honoured teaching practices with creative, dynamic and interactive language tasks which effectively cater for students' interests and promote the use of the English language in meaningful contexts.



▲The five key elements of Ms AU's teaching practice

Bringing innovation to life

I tactfully embed the key elements into a series of interconnected and creative lessons for different units across levels, in which students use the target language items meaningfully throughout the learning tasks. For instance, for a P4 unit based on the topic "Life in the Future", I designed a series of six creative lessons revolved around a fictional character from the future - Yovee, which reinforced my students' skills in applying the target language items in fun and authentic contexts. In one of the lessons, the students were immersed in a scenario where they had to interact with Yovee using the AI chatbot and ask him about his life in 2062 with simple future tense. A witty design of the chatbot naturally directed students to self-correct their sentences - if the students used the wrong tenses to type in their sentences, the chatbot would simulate a "poor signal". The students adored the character so they were eager to keep the conversation going by correcting the sentences. The subsequent lessons involved the students



◄▲A series of creative lessons revolved around "Yovee" to promote the authentic use of the language items

in reading a story about Yovee's visit to Hong Kong, prompting them to probe into issues such as hygiene with their peers. The students collaboratively brainstormed ideas on a mind map and then created futuristic inventions that could provide solutions to the problems.

Empowering every learner

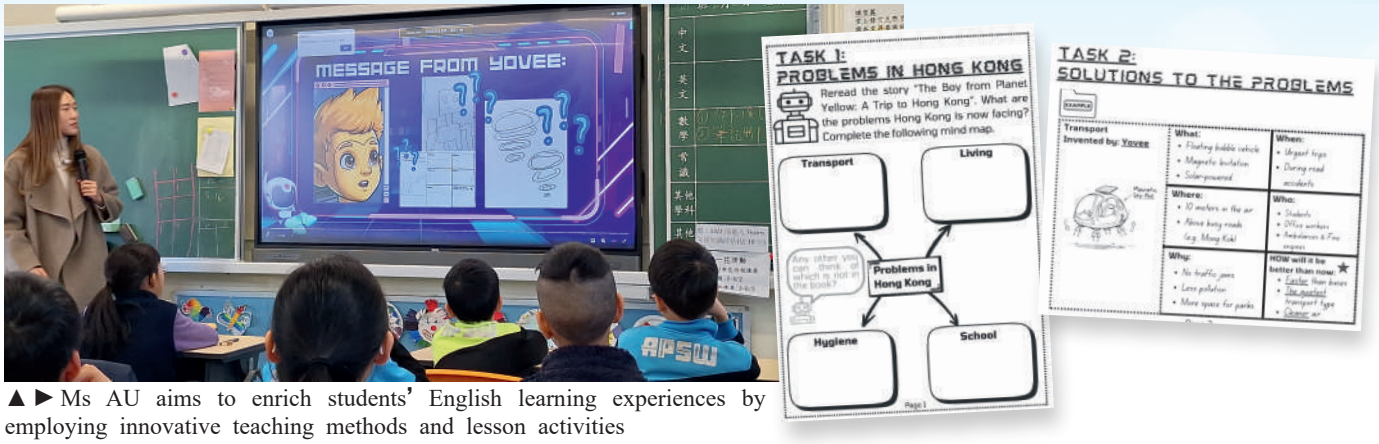
To ensure inclusiveness, I adopt the multimodal approach to address students' different learning needs and styles of students are catered in my classroom. I strive to promote a lively learning atmosphere and enhance students' motivation by adapting and using a wide range of learning and teaching materials such as multimedia presentations, storybooks, infographics, games and AI tools. This enhancement in pedagogical design has profoundly improved the learning outcomes and encouraged students to become active, competent and self-driven English language learners.



▲Using English to communicate and express ideas

Assessment Summary

Engaging Students in Interactive and Creative Learning Tasks to Promote Authentic Use of English



▲►Ms AU aims to enrich students' English learning experiences by employing innovative teaching methods and lesson activities

The awardee is a passionate teacher who embraces time-honoured pedagogies as well as the integration of innovative teaching methods. By integrating these into the school-based English Language curriculum, she effectively develops students' language proficiency and 21st century skills. She leverages her pedagogical expertise to create highly engaging, student-centred units and activities that promote active learning and authentic application of English language skills.

The teacher has put in relentless effort in enhancing the English Language curriculum, driven by her core belief of incorporating key elements (namely fun, authenticity, context, inclusiveness and technology) into her teaching practice. She has successfully enhanced her English lessons with creative and interactive language tasks to address the diverse needs and abilities of her students, boosting their engagement as well as effectively enhancing their understanding and application of forms, meanings and the use of language features in meaningful contexts.

The teacher's innovative spirit is evident in her continuous exploration of new ideas and commitment to keeping abreast of the latest trends in education. She shows excellent competence in adapting and designing creative units and lessons to provide students with ample opportunities to develop their critical thinking skills, collaboration skills, creativity, problem-solving skills and language skills. Her regular and tactful adaptations of learning and teaching resources and activities effectively promote meaningful application of the target language structures.

In the lesson observed, the teacher demonstrated confidence and passion in effective class teaching and developed close rapport with her students. She was well-versed in utilising new technology, traditional as well as innovative teaching methods in her English language classroom to address the learning needs of students. The multimodal approach greatly catered different learning styles of students and promoted an active and lively learning atmosphere. Furthermore, the teacher manifested excellent subject knowledge and used structured questioning to develop students' higher-order thinking skills.

The teacher exhibits an outstanding professional attitude, which has inspired and motivated other panel members to embrace education innovation, fostering an innovative culture in the school. She has spearheaded the adoption of new technology in her English language classroom and has actively opened her classroom for peer observations. Her teaching practice exhibits strong reflective elements as she continuously adapts innovative approaches to meet the evolving educational trends and ensure that students remain motivated.

Ways to Obtain Information on the Teaching Practice

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