

Classroom Management

Here are some ideas for setting up your classroom to facilitate an acquisition-centered environment.

Question word posters

The question words should be prominently placed in the TPRS® classroom since a main element of TPRS® is asking numerous questions. Some teachers have multiple versions of the question words around their room in order to not have to stay around the front.



Question word posters FREE at TPRSbooks.com

Target Vocabulary

Before teaching, it's always a good idea to write the words on the board or to have them in a PowerPoint. Having the English translation in a different color from the Target Language is recommended.

Word Walls

Word walls can be helpful to have rejoinders, high frequency verbs, transitional phrases, or other language that would be helpful to have on the walls with translation for you to refer to throughout the year.

Desk Arrangement

While each situation may vary, the ideal desk arrangements in a TPRS® classroom would be an arrangement where a teacher can walk around and maximize coverage of walking close to students to keep them on task. Often times, the ideal seating arrangements are 2 deep (as explained by Fred Jones in his book *Tools for Teaching*) and allow teachers to walk around with relative ease.

Another thing to consider is the ability of students to view posters, the whiteboard, the actors, etc.

Another possibility for your classroom is to go completely deskless. Instead of desks, opt for chairs so that students must focus on the language. When it comes time to write, students can have a hard surface such as a clipboard to write on for quizzes or foldable tables can be used on testing days.

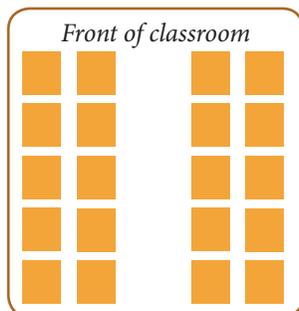


Diagram 1

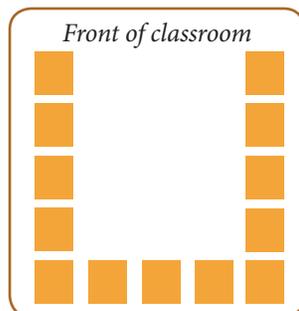
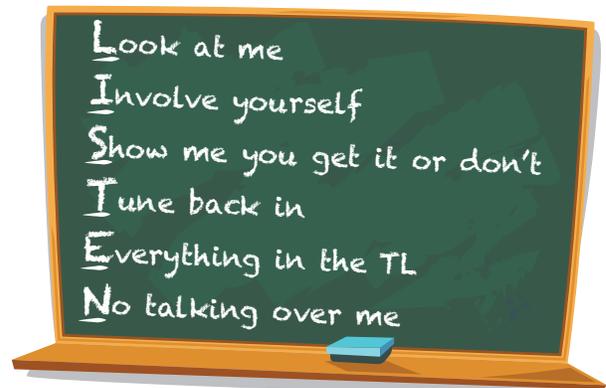


Diagram 2

Rules

It can be helpful to have someplace in the classroom to display your rules for staying in the Target Language. One such Acronym is L.I.S.T.E.N.



Rules help establish clear expectations. Nevertheless, to help students understand the expectations, the teacher should refer to rules when infractions occur. A simple principle to remember is to fight the small battles early so there aren't larger battles later.

Props

Since TPRS® involves dramatization, it can be helpful to accumulate a collection of props for stories to enhance interest. These could be stored in a chest, a closet, etc.