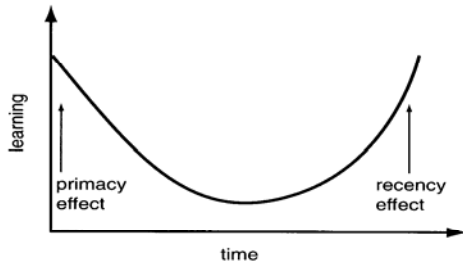




9 Tips on How to Get Your Lesson Off to a Great Start.

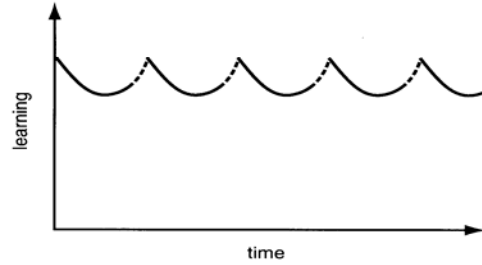
- ① Welcome and greet your students by name at the door! Smile and make use of positive body language. Create optimism about what is to come. Be excited about what you are about to teach. If you're not excited how can they be?**
- ② Play upbeat music and establish a positive mood, if the room is quiet there will be less socialising going on. Playing upbeat music as students enter the classroom encourages interaction whilst putting them in a positive, relaxed mental state.**
- ③ Put up attention-grabbing visuals (coloured slides on the Smartboard), a real-life problem or an interesting acronym.**
- ④ Take advantage of first impressions. You have only 30 seconds! Open the lesson with three key words you would like the students to remember... and they will! (See BEM, *Beginning-End-Middle*, principle below).**
- ⑤ Get their attention! Use an object, special event, an unusual gesture, a fresh location, decoration, etc. what-ever-it-takes.**
- ⑥ Provide direction by sharing your own ideas.**
- ⑦ Establish control. Ask for simple actions- have them do it "your way", or do something physical like write their name in a special way (with a symbol or colour).**
- ⑧ Refine outcomes/objectives- what is important to the students, ask, gather information and get agreement. Have students create lists and post goals for the lesson.**
- ⑨ Use "loops"- incomplete actions or words- as cliffhangers to hold attention.**

The BEM principle



People remember more from the beginning and end of a learning experience than they do from the middle. This is known as the primacy effect and the recency effect.

Exploiting the BEM principle



Create lots of 'beginnings' in your lessons to maximise memory and learning.

Jensen E. 1998 'Teaching with the Brain in Mind' ISBN: 9780871202994

www.teachertoteacher.co.uk