

Report on the Workshop Session: "How to be a Boring Teacher?" – A Reflection for student- teachers

Date: 02/12/2024

Audience: First Year Bachelor of Education (F Y B Ed) Students

Introduction: This report summarises the key aspects of the t workshop session titled talk, "How to be a Boring Teacher?" Presented with deliberate satire, the session aimed not to instruct you on how to become dull educators, but rather to use humour and reverse psychology as a powerful tool. The ultimate goal was to stimulate deep reflection on the essential qualities and practices that define truly *effective* and engaging teachers, aligning perfectly with the foundational goals of B. Ed programme.

Summary of the Satirical "Advice": The speaker humorously outlined a "roadmap" for achieving maximum classroom boredom leading to degree 'bachelor of boredom.' Key "strategies" recommended included:

- 1. **Mastering the Monotone:** Speaking in a flat, unchanging tone ensures no flicker of excitement or emphasis accidentally engages students.
- 2. **Rigid Adherence to the Textbook:** Treating the textbook as the sole source of knowledge, reading directly from it, and strictly discouraging any deviation or external exploration guarantees predictability and stifles curiosity.
- 3. **Avoiding Eye Contact and Interaction:** Minimising personal connection by avoiding eye contact and limiting student questions or discussions helps maintain a sterile, impersonal environment.
- 4. **Killing Enthusiasm:** Deliberately showing no passion or interest in the subject matter effectively signals to students that the topic isn't worth their engagement either.
- 5. **Over-reliance on Dense Presentations:** Using text-heavy slides with complex jargon and reading them verbatim is an excellent way to induce drowsiness.
- 6. **Predictability is Key:** Never surprising students with new activities, varied teaching methods, or moments of spontaneity ensures a comfortably numb routine.
- 7. **Non democratic classroom environment:** Not allowing the students to raise doubts, voice genuine opinions kill the curious minds.

The Underlying Message: Defining Effective Teaching Through Contrast: The brilliance of this satirical approach lies in its ability to vividly highlight the *opposite* of each "boring" technique. Crucially, the humour inherent in the exaggerated 'advice' clearly resonated with the audience, eliciting frequent laughter and fostering a highly engaged atmosphere. This positive reception demonstrated that significant learning and reflection can occur effectively, perhaps even more memorably, alongside

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genuine enjoyment – students were learning while laughing. By ironically prescribing ineffective methods, the talk powerfully underscored the characteristics of dynamic and impactful teaching:

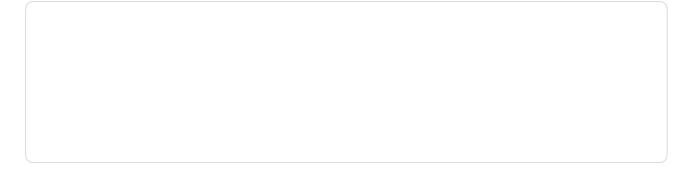
- **Vocal Variety and Passion:** An effective teacher uses tone, pitch, and pace variation to emphasise points and convey genuine enthusiasm for the subject.
- **Beyond the Textbook:** While textbooks are resources, effective teachers supplement them with diverse materials, real-life examples, and encourage critical thinking and exploration.
- **Building Rapport and Interaction:** Engaging teachers make eye contact, learn student names, foster a welcoming environment, and encourage questions and collaborative discussions.
- **Fostering Deep Understanding:** The goal is not just memorisation, but comprehension, application, analysis, and connecting learning to students' lives.
- **Sharing Passion:** An educator's passion is contagious; sharing genuine interest inspires students.
- Dynamic and Varied Methods: Effective teaching involves using a mix of strategies –
 discussions, activities, technology, storytelling, visual aids to cater to different learning styles
 and maintain engagement.
- **Embracing Flexibility:** While structure is important, being adaptable and occasionally spontaneous can make learning more exciting and relevant.

Call to Reflection: The discussion prompts that the faculty used were:

- Which "boring" traits might you unintentionally possess or risk developing under pressure?
- Conversely, which qualities of an *effective* teacher (highlighted by the satire) resonate most with you?
- What specific steps can you take during your B. Ed training and beyond to consciously cultivate enthusiasm, clarity, interaction, and a student-centered approach?
- How can you use creativity and even humour (appropriately) in your future classrooms,
 remembering how engaging this session was?

Conclusion: The "How to be a Boring Teacher" talk, through its clever and well-received use of satire, provided a memorable and thought-provoking examination of teaching practices. The positive student reaction underscored the value of engaging pedagogical approaches. It served as a potent reminder that effective teaching is an active, dynamic, and deeply human endeavour. By understanding what *not* to do, especially through a lens of humour, we gain clearer insight into the engaging, inspiring, and impactful educators we are all striving to become.

Report prepared by Smita Ganatra, Faculty, CSSM.



Feedback on "How to be a boring teacher' 02/12/2024

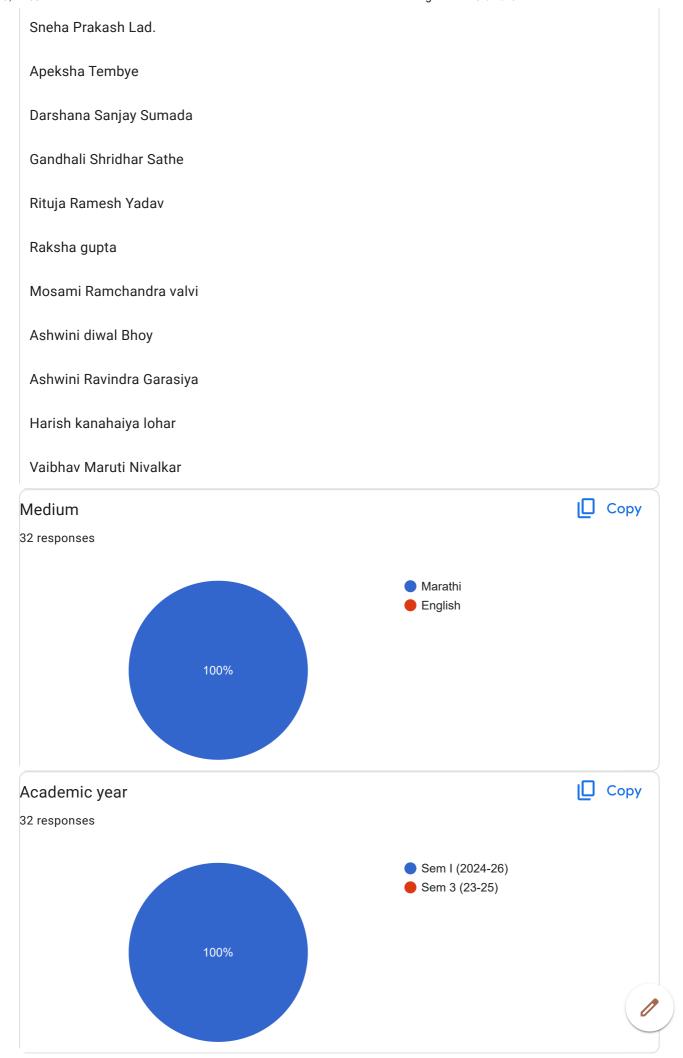
32 responses

Publish analytics



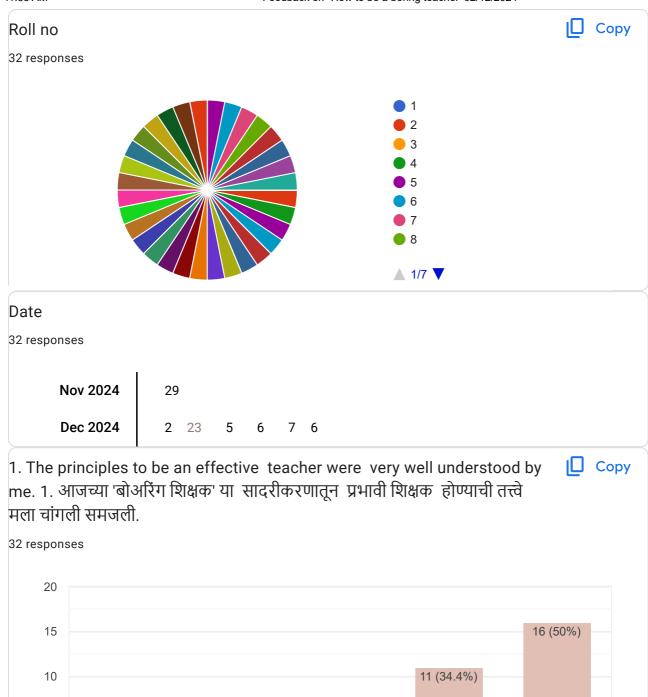
Name of The Participant (Student)

32 responses
Aparna Suresh chavan
Pooja Sunil Niwate
Gauri chandrakant Patade.
Suman Rampravesh Mourya
Prajakta mangesh surve
Sneha Sanjay Gupta
SAMADHAN PARSHURAM GHORPADE
Savita Arjun Gaikwad.
Sarita
अस्मिता लक्ष्मण भडांगे
Lalita Balu Jadhav
Munni Amrut Tambada
Diksha Padmakar Dethe
Aparna Suresh Bhomate
Deepika Laxman Bhurbhure
Jyoti Jaiswal
Aparna Adhikrao Hirwale
Amruta Prabhakar Kumbhar
Siddhi Narayan Mhadnak
Devram Shahaji Uthale
Ajay movasha vasave



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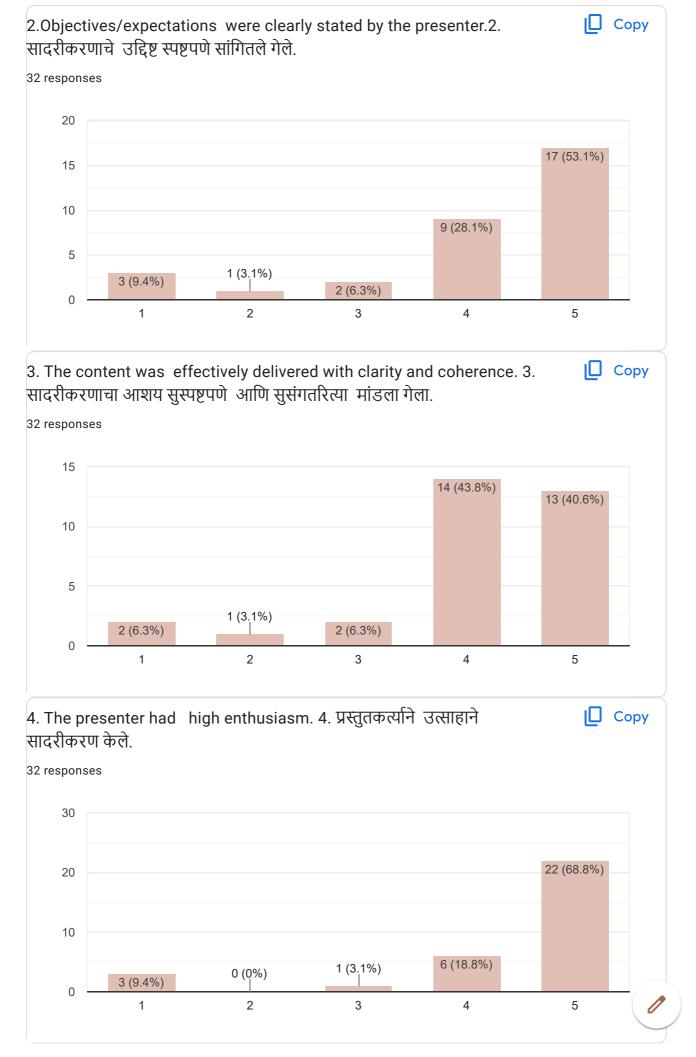
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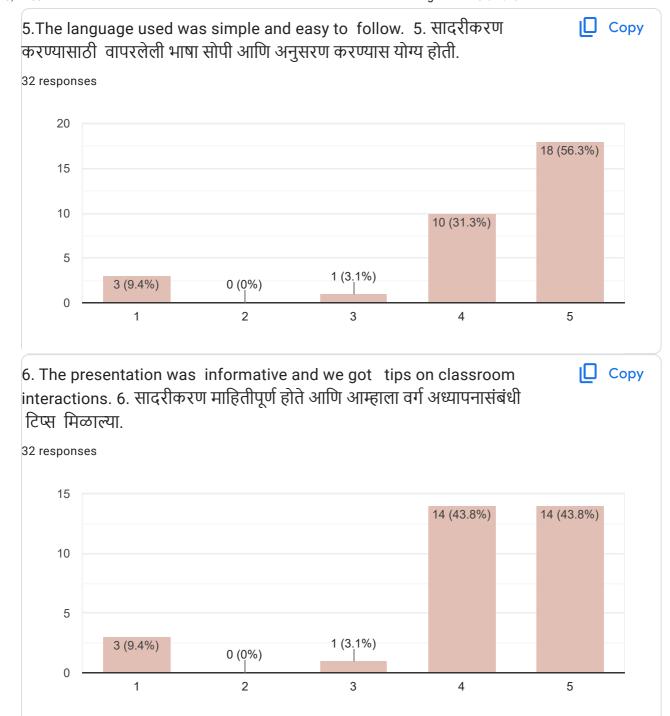


2 (6.3%)



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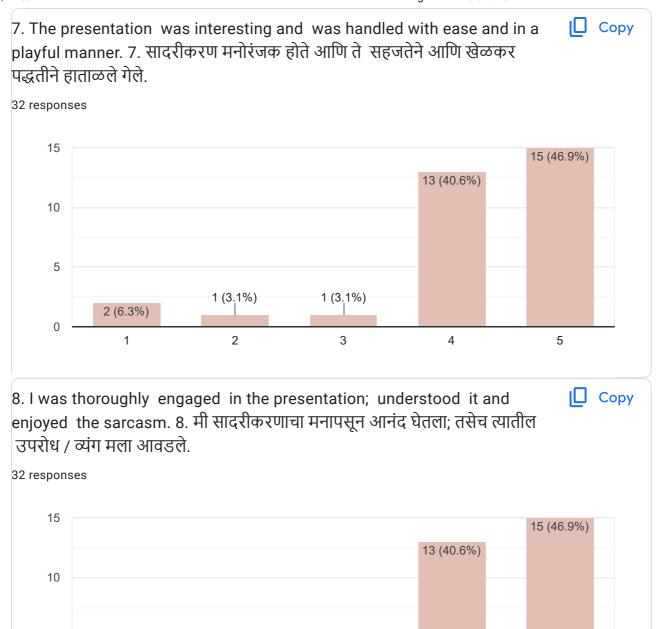




5

2 (6.3%)

1



1 (3.1%)

3

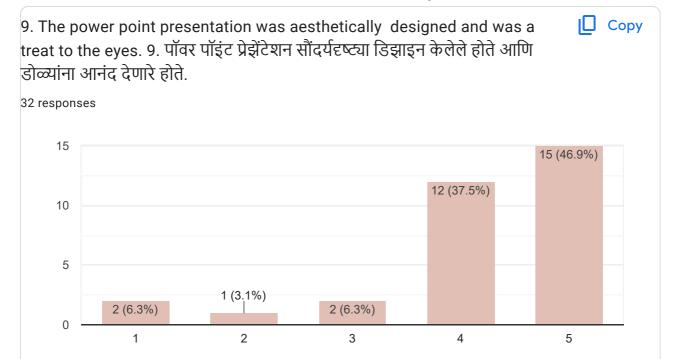
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5



1 (3.1%)

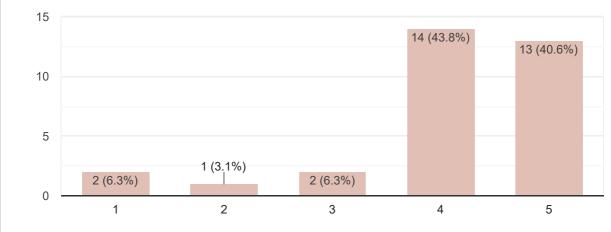
2



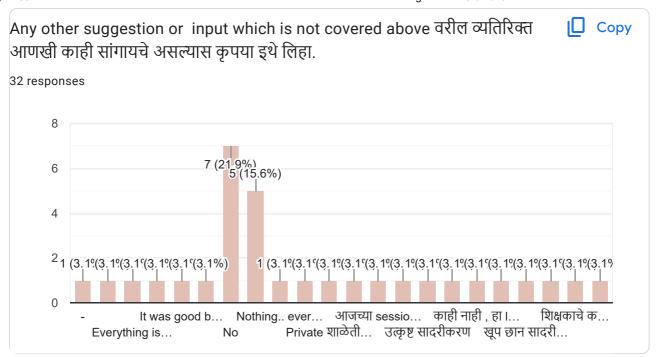
10. I learned that there are different ways of handling the content and sometimes the content can be presented in a mocking style. 10. अध्यापनाचे वेगवेगळे मार्ग आहेत आणि काहीवेळा उपहासात्मक शैलीत सादरीकरण केले जाऊ शकते हे मला समजले.











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Name:	Class/Medium:	Date:	
Dear Students, based on today's presentation on 'How to be a boring teacher', reflect and complete the following.			
My goal is to become a boring teacher /an interesting teacher	acher.		
Write down at least three qualities that make a good tea	cher.		
Enlist three things that a boring teacher will do.			
According to you, what are the three things that you thin	nk you need to work on to make	you into a	
good teacher?	•	•	

^{&#}x27;How to be a boring teacher' SNG, CSS Mahavidyalaya, Chembur 400071.