

1) Read the text carefully and do the activities.

(14 pts)

I am visiting a school and I accompany a teacher into her classroom. I cannot help but notice how competently she moves around. While I feel, as a visitor, somewhat strange and awkward in this place, she moves amongst the tables without bumping into them, turns to her own desk, holds the door for students who enter the room, talks to one student then to another while doing this or that, and I notice how she simultaneously tunes in to the gathering class. Then she gets the attention from the whole group and proceeds with the lesson in a confident and easy manner that is only unremarkable because it seems to require such little effort. She walks about the room, spurs a student on with a quiet gesture, stops here, interrupts there, responds to some commotion or a question, and so forth. Obviously this teacher feels at home in this room, in a way that allows her to act with such confidence and self-forgetful ease. Indeed this teacher is so effective precisely because she can forget herself and completely absorb herself in this situation with her students.

If we were to ask the teacher to give an account of every one of her actions then she would most likely stymied. Yet, it is the totality of all those micro-situations (and not just the overall intent and pattern of the lesson) that defines the teaching-learning reality of the classroom. The study of the practice of teaching would need to be sensitive to the experiential quality of practical knowledge: the acknowledgement that much of this tact, this instant knowing what to do, ensues from one's body and from the things and the atmosphere of one's world. We might even say that the practical knowledge of teaching resides in the things that surround us: the physical dimensions of the classroom that I recognize as my room to which my body is adapted. My practical knowledge "is" my felt sense of the classroom, my feeling who I am as a teacher, my felt understanding of my students, my felt grasp of the things that I teach, the mood that belongs to my world at school, the hallways, the staffroom, and of course this classroom.

Pedagogical Sensitivity by Max Van Manen

1) Answer the following questions according to the text.

- What defines the teaching-learning reality of the classroom?
- Describe the teacher's competences in engaging the teaching learning session.
- What's the difference between the writer's attitude and the teacher's?

2) Give a title to the text.

3) Find in the text words whose definitions follow:

- to prevent somebody from doing something already planned
- feel embarrassed
- hit something or somebody by accident

4) Classify the following words in the table:

Experiential, self-forgetful, unremarkable, competently

PREFIX	ROOT	SUFFIX

5) Express the following sentences differently.

a) The teacher was the last man who left the classroom.

b) It is said that he was a brilliant teacher.

6) Classify the following words according to their stressed syllables:

Accompany- simultaneously- atmosphere- acknowledge

1st syllable	2nd syllable	3rd syllable	4th syllable

7) Fill in each gap with a word of your own.

To be sure, a well-planned lesson greatly ...1....the odds of a successful class. But, not unlike comedians on their first-night performance, novice teachers soon realize that their2... may fall flat, lessons become ineffectual, and the teaching-learning situations often ...3... the sparkle and inspiration that they had hoped for. Stand-up comedians have a word for the test of an act; it is called "stand and deliver"—the interpretive ability to deliver one's lines in fine attunement with the mood of the audience. Like Jaime Escalante in the movie Stand and Deliver, good teachers know that there is an ...4..... dimension to teaching that is not just incidental to the life of the classroom but that belongs to it essentially.

8) Re-order the following sentences to make a coherent paragraph.

- A compliment should be meaningful and should not be granted indiscriminately because, if given too readily and too freely it may lose its significance.
- For this very reason praise create dilemmas.
- It is important that teachers understand the positive as well as the possible consequences of praising students.
- And on occasion it is possible that only one student or only a few students stand out for their accomplishments.
- Yet, many students no doubt deserve commendation for a variety of reasons.

II) Written Expression :

Write a composition developing the following Max Van Manen's claim:

"Good teachers experience classroom events with students as something that continually changes their actual plans and expectations. In the dynamic processes of teaching children, things rarely go according to plan. Teachers who nevertheless try to stick to their plans (rather than continually reminding themselves of the deeper pedagogical intents) inevitably discover how shallow their pedagogical intents or reasons really are."