

Mr. Looney – 12/6/23 & 12/7/23

Thank you for allowing me to teach your class today and take so much of your time! At least they have a start on Active and Passive voice. I think they have conjunctions down fairly well, so now you can expand them.

I wanted to give you some ideas for M since she seems to be a bit overrun by the boys in the class. You may want to consider having her spend time with you during silent reading time, going over the content that you have taught. Let her know that the object is to get her confident in her knowledge, like she is with the capitals of the states! She does well, and is willing to answer those questions.

If you see she shuts down when narrating for you in the entire class, see if maybe she will narrate for you individually. Encourage her, help her to memorize maybe a small piece of poetry and let her present it to the class. Slowly work her into the group. If she doesn't want to put forth the effort, reach out to mom and dad and remind them of what the expectations are at Telos.

If she (or any student) suffers from test anxiety, an idea is to take the test questions, and reproduce them without the indication of them being a test. Type them up on separate paper and then announce to the class that everyone is going to work quietly for the next so many minutes. Hand them the packet and let them work. No discussion of an assessment or a test. See if she performs better. If she does, you can then show her that she took a test and performed better than the last time.

If it is a matter of speed, then we need to know whether her processing speed is slow, or whether she is slow due to non-motivation. This is where a vibrating egg timer comes in handy. Place one her in lap and see if she can beat the clock. Start with a benchmark of how many she can complete in a given time. Then offer a certain reward (may need to be even material at this point) if she can beat her time. We can talk about this more when after we talk about the five levels of learners next Monday at your PD.

As always, reach out to parents if students are not performing. If she needs some sort of testing done, it's better to be sooner than later.