

## ON BEING OPEN-MINDED

*by:*

**Hazel S. Linalcoso**

*Teacher I, Mariveles National High School - Cabcaban*

As I generally observe, those teachers who are most venerated of their colleagues are open-minded. However, as I scrutinize myself, I came to query what validates a teacher to be well-thought-out as open-minded.

When equated to closed-mindedness, the term "open-mindedness" labels how and to what extent an individual is receptive to and respects novel concepts and vantage points. Thus, open-minded individuals are more prospective to listen avidly to and take seriously innovative and unconventional points of view. Open-mindedness is a distinguishing attribute of teachers' reflective and critical thinking, according to research. Because educators and pupils with innumerable socio-cultural roots may have deviating and, in some cases, disparate opinions, this particular quality is imperative in teaching. As an upshot, it is decisive to advance the skills compulsory to face and succeed variances in viewpoints and ideologies as well as to craft a sympathetic, autonomous learning milieu where different does not equal incorrect.

In addition, cultivating logical modesty and a keenness to contemplate a extensive assortment of viewpoints are teachable qualities that are transforming to be more momentous in our interrelated, transnational society. Of course, having an open mind is an instrument for purposefully unleashing your individual beliefs among an eclectic variability of viewpoints.

Being open-minded ourselves as educator presages teaching our pupils to do the similar. Teaching multiplicity and cross-cultural cognizance are two examples of rich areas and themes that foster open-mindedness. This is an incessant effort in a society that

is constantly shifting. You have triumphed in founding open-mindedness if you have succeeded to get pupils attracted in hearing sentiments on topics they might not otherwise contemplate stimulating.

As a final point, being open-minded ourselves will assist a generation of digital natives who are habituated to possessing the world at their fingertips discover critical thinking to be simple and enjoyable.

*References:*

Mulhall, P. J., Smith, D. V., Hart, C. E., & Gunstone, R. F. (2017). Contemporary Scientists Discuss the Need for Openness and Open-Mindedness in Science and Society. *Research in Science Education*, 47(5), 1151-1168. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11165-016-9554-6>

Nurfaidah, S. (2018). Three attitudes of a reflective teacher. *Res. Innov. Lang. Learn.* 1, 39-48. doi: 10.33603/rill.v1i1.1084