

HOW TO DEAL WITH THE WRONG ANSWER OF A LEARNER: STRATEGIES FOR EFFECTIVE TEACHING AND LEARNING

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Dealing with students' wrong answers is an important part of teaching and learning. Teachers have a big part to play in helping students understand and do better in school by figuring out and correcting these wrong answers. This piece discusses handling wrong answers in school settings to create a good learning environment.

Teachers need to look at wrong replies (Asase, 2022). Teachers must know why their students make mistakes to give them the right advice. Finding common misunderstandings and wrong answers can significantly affect how well students learn (Chen et al., 2020). When teachers know their students' most common wrong answers, they can help them improve (Chen et al., 2020). Ross (2024) also says that putting different wrong answers into groups can help you determine the mental processes that lead to creative thought.

Many ideas have been put forward for how to deal with wrong answers in a good way. For instance, the Wrong Answer Ensemble (WAE) is a new way to group wrong answers to multiple-choice questions (Kim & Fung, 2020). The Reflection Net model also helps people tell the difference between "no answer" and "wrong answer" situations in reading comprehension tasks (Wang et al., 2020). Peer talks have turned wrong answers into right ones (Yücel & Kaymak, 2022). Also, educational interventions like escape rooms and debate activities have helped students get the correct answers and improve in school (Berthod et al., 2019; Eikeland & Frøyland, 2020).

Giving and getting feedback is a key part of fixing wrong answers. It works better to give correct feedback than to replace correct replies with mistakes (Metcalf & Eich, 2019). Punishing bad answers can lower test scores and widen the achievement gap between boys and girls (Coffman & Klinowski, 2020). Elford (2024) says that getting students to talk about and explain their answers can help them respond better.

Teachers must use multiple methods when dealing with wrong answers in school situations. Teachers should know how to look at wrong answers and determine why students respond the way they do so they can give specific help. Some things that can help students learn more are figuring out the most common wrong answers, putting misconceptions into groups, and using peer talks. By setting up sound feedback systems and encouraging joint learning, teachers can give students the tools to deal with problems and do well in school.

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