Surviving the "Novemberized" Classroom

One Teacher’s Practical Approach to Incorporating Alan November’s Classroom Strategies
A little about me...

@_MrsRimmer

★ I am a National Board Certified English Teacher from Gastonia, NC.
★ This is my 6th year teaching English 10 at Ashbrook High School.
★ I have been implementing Alan November’s classroom strategies for the past 2 years.
★ My husband Daniel and I have 2 sons and 3 dogs.
If you’ve just learned some of Dr. November’s strategies, you are probably feeling...
... overwhelmed by the information...
... excited by the possibilities...
... and terrified at the thought of getting started!
Just relax!

There are only TWO steps to implement these strategies in your classroom!
You need to get invested
Have a different mindset

- Be prepared to take risks and try new things.
- Decide that teaching students how to think is more important than teaching them what to think.
- Question things that “have always been done this way.”
- Allow student voice in your classroom.

Remember: It’s not about the tools or the technology, it’s about your approach.
You need to get them invested
When students are invested, everything else falls into place.
You have to transform your classroom from the very first moment so that students know it is like nothing they have ever experienced before.
Welcome to English 10!

Time to become a “student” in my class on day 1
Station Activity

Work with your team of 4 to complete 3 stations posted around the room.

Rules:
- You must work as a team
- Only one team per station at a time
- No more than 4 minutes per station
- Follow the directions exactly

You only have 12 minutes to work!!
Station Activity

Work with your team of 4 to complete 3 stations posted around the room.

Rules:
- You must work as a team
- Only one team per station at a time
- No more than 4 minutes per station
- Follow the directions exactly

You only have 12 minutes to work!!
One Final Station

Now you get a chance to complete THE IMPOSSIBLE STATION.

- You only have 4:00 minutes to work!!
- Make sure you are only working with your team!

bit.ly/2LFnUgZ
One Final Station

Now you get a chance to complete THE IMPOSSIBLE STATION.

- You only have 4:00 minutes to work!!
- Make sure you are only working with your team!

bit.ly/2LFnUgZ
Station Discussion

Which was your favorite station?

Which was your least favorite?
Station Discussion

Lego Station

Acronym Station

- Anyone have a cool acronym to share?
- Who was tempted to cheat?
Station Discussion

Square Station - Who thought outside the box?
Station Discussion

Impossible Station:

➢ Who found the question?
➢ Who actually answered the question?
Station Discussion

Impossible Station:
Where’s the PROOF?!!?
Check out these student testimonials!
My teacher treats me like an individual and not just part of a group.

- Neutral: 11.4%
- Agree: 29.5%
- Strongly Agree: 59.1%

Data from my end-of-the-semester survey
Data from my end-of-the-semester survey

I like making decisions and having input in this class.

- Strongly disagree: 2.3%
- Agree: 34.1%
- Strongly agree: 50.0%
- Neutral: 11.4%
One of the many things I like about your class is that you keep it very interactive and you don’t really ever have us just sit and take notes. This is one of the only classes I don’t get bored in so thanks.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If I should continue doing one thing, what should I continue doing?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Group work</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>the perception lessons</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>i like how you dont just let people fail and you are actually worried about there grades or effort.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>All of it.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>paying attention to our ideas and using them</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Being a respectful teacher and constantly being there for help</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A selection of comments from an optional question on my end-of-the-semester survey.
I was asked to present my classroom strategies in SEPTEMBER…

A video of my presentation to The Board of Education

…with high school students... and it worked!
Any questions?

THE END

ANY QUESTIONS?
Resources

★ Folder of Day 1 Station Activities
- Make a copy of any resource and modify or use as is
- Includes:
  - All stations from presentation
  - Extra stations
  - Student assignment template
  - Teacher directions
  - Printable station labels
★ Access this presentation later at: bit.ly/Novemberize
Thanks!

If you have questions later, you can find me at:

- @_MrsRimmer
- varimmer@gaston.k12.nc.us
Credits

Special thanks to all the people who made and released these awesome resources for free:

- Presentation template by SlidesCarnival
- Photographs by Unsplash