

Personal Reflection – December 11, 2021

A Piquant Approach

I love to find a new word! Today I read that Jesus taught using *piquant* (pi-kant) stories! Well! What in the world is a piquant story? The dictionary says, piquant is “having a pleasantly sharp taste or appetizing flavor; *a piquant tartare sauce*, pleasantly stimulating or exciting to the mind!”

“A man had two sons...” The Prodigal Son Luke: 15:11-19. Which one was *prodigal*? The Good Samaritan: Samaritans were the marginalized, outcast folk at that time.

I hope my stories in all my books are piquant enough to stimulate the mind.

How about the stories you tell as you teach? Are they *pleasantly stimulating and exciting to the mind*? Or are they didactic, demanding agreement? An open question is *always* piquant!

Dialogue Education, as I understand the system, is indeed piquant: *stimulating or exciting to the mind*! We listen to learners’ themes, we design informed by what we learned, we set piquant learning tasks, we tell piquant stories, we laugh a lot and learn from the learners’ piquant responses to their Learning Tasks and to our stories.

Authentic dialogue is almost always piquant!

--Jane Vella