

Selection and Application of Current Affairs and Politics Materials in Political Classroom Teaching in Senior High School

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Abstract: Based on the status quo of political education in high school, current affairs and politics materials are utilized as an example in this paper to analyze and discuss the value of the proper use of current affairs and politics materials in high school political classroom teaching. In addition, the paper also discusses the principles that should be adhered to in selecting materials for use in political classroom teaching. The purpose of this article is to provide guidelines to high school political subject teachers in selecting and applying the current affairs and politics materials reasonably.

Keywords: High school politics; Current affairs and politics materials; Value; Principle

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1. Introduction

Politics is an important course in high school. It plays a critical role for students to develop philosophical thinking, understand economic life, and master cultural knowledge. In view of the educational value of the political subject, high school political teachers are committed to exploring efficient teaching methods in order to improve the teaching efficiency and quality of this subject. Current affairs resources and materials have been introduced in educational practice for students to keep up with the latest trends, which have been well-received by the students. In this paper, the selection and application value of current affairs and politics materials in high school political classroom teaching will be discussed.

2. The value of using political materials in high school political classrooms

Application of politics materials in high school political classrooms helps to stimulate students' interest in learning. In the opinion of several students, politics is a relatively abstract and rigid subject that requires rigorous memorization. Consequently, students' enthusiasm in political learning appears to be low, which affects their learning effect. However, current political materials are about recent domestic and foreign events that are critical. High school students encounter them in their daily lives, thus stimulating their desire to explore

and analyze them. Therefore, if high school political subject teachers use current affairs and politics materials appropriately, it will largely awaken students' interest and stimulate their enthusiasm in political learning, and understand the importance of current affairs and politics. Through these, they can change their inaccurate understanding of politics, and can actively integrate them into the learning of political knowledge. Students who are really interested in politics will have the motivation to learn it and remember what they learned. Thus, it is critical that students change their views on politics, from the previous rote memorization of political functions, to the fact that politics can also have a lively and interesting side, so that they will be more interested in studying politics ^[1].

Additionally, it helps to deepen students' understanding for learning. Previously, many students tended to learn abstract political concepts and principles by rote memorization, which is inefficient and ineffective. Therefore, high school political teachers need to guide students to memorize them in a flexible and ingenious way. Many current affairs and politics materials reflect rich political knowledge. Introducing appropriate current affairs and politics materials when explaining specific knowledge points can achieve the effect of complementing theory with practice, so that students can not only understand practice through theory, but also apply practice in understanding and sublimating theoretical knowledge, thereby greatly improving students' political learning effects.

It also can develop students' ability in knowledge application. Most of the students' political learning from textbooks is limited to understanding in class and testing in exam, but few students will consciously apply it in their own social life. The problem is that they only master the theoretical knowledge, but lack the ability to apply it in real life. Consequently, this has great constraints on the growth and development of high school students' political literacy. However, if current affairs and politics materials are properly used in political classrooms to guide students to connect theory with practice, this can provide a platform for students to link theory with practice. Through this, students' ability to apply the political knowledge they have learned can be enhanced, and this will undoubtedly contribute to the significant progress and development of students' political literacy.

3. Principles in selecting political materials for use in high school political classrooms

Current affairs and politics materials should keep up with the latest trend. Current affairs and politics materials are domestic and foreign social hotspot materials that have occurred in the recent period. The basic requirement is to conform to the development trend concerning the current domestic and foreign politics and economics. Therefore, high school political teachers must select and use current affairs and politics materials in educational practice, and avoid outdated materials.

Current affairs and politics materials should be in line with objective conditions. Current affairs and politics materials include contents from many aspects in domestic and abroad, some of which are in line with the objective reality, while some distort the facts. For this reason, the current affairs and politics materials selected and used in educational practice must be true and in line with the objective reality.

Current affairs and politics materials used in high school political classroom teaching should also be consistent with and closely related to the teaching content. Through this, current affairs and politics materials can promote students' learning of specific high school political knowledge. It is inappropriate and biased to use current political materials without relation to the teaching content ^[2].

4. Opportunities for the use of political materials in high school political classrooms

Current affairs and politics materials can be applied in the introduction part of the new course for high-quality classroom introduction. To this end, high school political subject teachers must improve the quality of classroom introduction to firmly grab the students' attention at the beginning of the class, and encourage students to enthusiastically and actively integrate into political learning ^[3].

For example, when teaching the knowledge of "Marxism," the introduction can be put at the beginning of the class. After learning about the introduction, the students can share and discuss about their understanding. Sharing and discussion allow students to memorize the knowledge point, since this teaching method allows easier understanding and students can learn in a relaxed environment.

Current affairs and politics materials can be introduced in the explanation of political knowledge. There is a vast knowledge contained in high school political subjects, it is more difficult for students to understand the more abstract and complex part. For this reason, high school political teacher can use political materials to assist students in understanding the political knowledge and content they have learned. Political materials can help to improve the political education and students' learning due to its simplicity in explanation.

High school political teachers should also be aware of current affairs and politics to teach good values. The purpose of current affairs and politics in college entrance examination is to let students understand the Chinese policies and development. In order for students to keep up with the current affairs and politics, they need to watch the news broadcast every day to record important current affairs news. Through this, students will have an understanding of the current affairs and politics, without deliberately reciting it. Watching the news is helpful for students to actively absorb the knowledge and they can simultaneously relax from their stressful high school life.

High school political teachers can also use current affairs and politics to help students solve their problems, such as the expenditure concerns of college students. Through the news, it is found that many students have unreasonable and excessive expenditure which causes college students to take loans. As a result, college students will often think about repaying the loan and other special loan methods, instead of studying. These inappropriate consumption concepts will leave indelible damage to the students' life. Current affairs and politics can improve students' thinking on how to establish a correct consumption concept. Students can be encouraged to express their opinions and views, and figure out the pros and cons of this consumption concept. Political affairs allow students to establish a correct view of consumption, and prevent them from taking excessive loan.

5. Correct application of current affairs and politics materials in high school ideological and political classroom teaching

Teachers can use current affairs and politics materials to cultivate students' independent learning ability and innovative thinking. The task of collecting data will be arranged before class for students to understand the key points and the political ideas conveyed based on the relevant information they have collected. Students can collect cases according to their conditions, preferably current events and hotspot information that happened in their own lives, which is easier for them to understand and digest. In the process of collecting data and learning, it can improve students' comprehension and analysis ability, thereby developing a good study habit.

For example, in the political and ideological class, there is a section with the theme of economic development and construction in the new era of socialism. The teacher can quote the national leader's views and use the development concept of innovation, coordination, green, openness, and accessible as the teaching

material to teach current affairs and politics materials. As a result, students can deeply understand that everything is based on the principle of reality and spontaneously raise relevant questions and discussions.

Other than that, group discussion and exchange can be carried out in class. When the class is in progress, the students can discuss in groups and select representatives to speak. The students can be divided into five groups on average, and each group selects a group leader to collect the data of all students in this group. Then, the materials can be exchanged for discussion. In the process of mutual discussion, there will be agreement and differences in opinions. Through discussion and exchange of opinions, the students can learn from each other and further improve their understanding on politics.

Politics in high school includes four levels of life, economy, politics, and culture. After the teaching of each level is complete, the teacher can start a discussion on special topics with the students in the class. Students can also start a debate competition on current hot topics, which allows students more flexibility in the use of knowledge points and be more thorough in their analysis and understanding. Seminars and debates can improve students' comprehensive analysis ability, and make the classroom livelier and more interesting, thereby enhancing students' enthusiasm in learning current affairs and politics materials.

Consolidate and summarize on time after class. Teachers can also encourage students to summarize after class for profound impression of the political materials mentioned in the class. After-class summarization plays a vital role in the subsequent periodic review. Multiple applications allow students to analyze the important connections and differences between the current affairs and politics materials used by the teacher during the class, making the analysis more comprehensive and diversified. This method is useful for both students and teachers. Teachers can summarize and analyze the advantages and disadvantages of their own teaching mode, and whether the selected political materials are related to the teaching materials and real life after class. Through this, teachers can continuously improve their teaching ability and bring higher quality teaching to students. At the same time, teachers should also constantly listen to feedback from students, and evaluate students' performance by summarizing relevant homework after class.

6. Conclusion

Current affairs and politics materials are a valuable teaching resource that will significantly improve the teaching efficiency of political subjects in senior high schools. To this end, high school political subject teachers must start from real life and use political materials appropriately and rationally to enrich the teaching content of political classrooms. Political materials can increase students' enthusiasm in political learning, optimize the quality of political learning of students, and ultimately affect the significant progress and development of high school students' political literacy.

Disclosure statement

The author declares no conflicts of interest.

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