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ED 239
Strategy Reflection

I thought my lesson went very well. My main overall goal was to raise their suspense levels for reading the horror short story tomorrow, and it worked. When I had finished the lesson several of the students said, "Ohhh, we are reading it tomorrow?" I said, "This way your suspense will be so intense that you'll be on the edge of your seat reading it tomorrow." We shall see if introducing the main themes of the story will increase comprehension when we read it tomorrow. This was my first full on lesson presented in Sarah Sharp's class. I have been doing some warm-up grammar exercises each morning, but nothing fancy. I thought I would be totally nervous, but as soon as I got up there I had so much fun. I loved it, and I can't wait to do it again. During the discussion I was aware that I didn't draw out enough of some of the responses. It was my first time leading a middle school discussion, and Sarah thinks it is the most difficult age level to do this affectively. There are so many factors with 7th graders, such as the peer factor, the Monday morning factor, and especially with the abundance of ELD students, the language factor. My supervisor and Sarah were there to critique me and I met with both of them separately afterwards to get their feedback. Nic, my supervisor, had some great ideas about not turning your back to your audience, since I like to walk around the room and not stand at the front the entire time. He also told me that I should pay attention to the tone of my voice and make sure it shifts every so often so nothing is monotone. One of my big questions was how to get more students to participate, since it seemed like the same seven students kept talking. I think when I solo in December I am going to use calling cards, or Popsicle sticks, something that ensures participation from everyone. Now that I have my feet wet I feel a lot more confident for the days ahead. Sarah was really excited about how well the anticipation guide worked helping them connect with the themes and sparking their interest. She said she wants to use more of them in the future. I'm excited to move on to planning a history lesson for the upcoming week. I knew even if I bombed today it would still be a great experience because this is the best time to make mistakes. I'm excited that teaching is going to be my profession in life.