

# POSITIVE FRAMING

Students desire to hear three things from their teacher:

1. I believe in you.
2. You have a purpose.
3. How are you?

“Positive framing means making interventions to correct student behavior in a positive and constructive way. It does not mean avoiding interventions so you can talk instead only about the positive behavior you see. It is teaching kids in an optimistic, upbeat, confident manner.”- Doug Lemov

| Negative Phrase   | Positive Phrase   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>Responding to a wrong answer:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No</li> <li>• You're wrong.</li> <li>• That's not right.</li> <li>• That's not what I think.</li> </ul>  | <p><b>Responding to a wrong answer:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can you explain how you got your answer?</li> <li>• That's an interesting answer, but not exactly what i was looking for.</li> <li>• That's a great try, but ...</li> <li>• I see how you could think that / I see how you got that answer</li> <li>• Interesting idea! I haven't thought about it like that before. However...</li> <li>• Good thought, but let's look at paragraph 1 and see...</li> <li>• Thank you!</li> <li>• Wow, that's excellent thinking. (restate question with simple explanation or change) Would you like to try again?</li> <li>•</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Paying Attention:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timmy, pay attention.</li> <li>• Look at me.</li> </ul>  | <p><b>Paying Attention:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can I see everyone's eyes?</li> <li>• Can you all see my eyes?</li> <li>•</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>Participation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You're not participating and it's going to show up in your grade.</li> <li>• You're not speaking enough.</li> <li>• You're not on task.</li> <li>• I don't hear you.</li> </ul> | <p><b>Participation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I see lots of hands over here. you're doing great today!</li> <li>• Wow, some of you have already reached your participation points this week!</li> <li>• I love how ____ is doing their work!</li> <li>• I'm going to give you 30 second to think of our answer. Then I (or dojo) will choose a student to share.</li> <li>• Share your answer with a partner. I will ask three students to share.</li> <li>•</li> </ul>   |

| Negative Phrase   | Positive Phrase   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>Studying:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If you don't study for the test, you'll fail the class.</li> </ul>   | <p><b>Studying:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If you study hard for the test you can get a better grad in the class.</li> <li>• I know you're able to do well on this test.</li> <li>• What are some different ways to study? Choose one to do tonight.</li> <li>•</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>Discipline:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Andy, you never listen or follow directions. If you continue doing this I'm going to write you up!</li> <li>• Stop doing that!</li> </ul>  | <p><b>Discipline:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Andy, I've noticed you seem distracted and have a hard time paying attention. What's going on? How can I help you?</li> <li>- I want to see you do... C<br/><i>Come up with an agreed, specific change or requirement.</i></li> <li>• I know you can do this and be a great student. You have two choice and I hope you choose the right choice.</li> <li>•</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>English Only:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stop speaking _____!</li> <li>• English only!</li> <li>• Jack, don't speak _____!</li> </ul>   | <p><b>English Only:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are we supposed to speak _____?</li> <li>• What language are we speaking today?</li> <li>• I love how _____ and _____ are using English!</li> <li>•</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>Differing Opinion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That's not correct.</li> <li>• That's not my opinion.</li> <li>• No.</li> <li>• Well, that's what you might think but the truth is ...</li> <li>• Someday you'll understand.</li> <li>• <i>laugh or make a joke</i></li> <li>• Well I think...</li> </ul> | <p><b>Differing Opinion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That's an interesting opinion / point of view.</li> <li>• What causes you to feel that way?</li> <li>• Can you explain your reason for your opinion?</li> <li>• Thank you for sharing. I don't personally agree, but I understand your point of view.</li> <li>• That's a common opinion that I often hear.</li> <li>•</li> </ul>                               |

Start with these:

**Good morning!**

**How are you?**

**Thank you!**

**Good job!**

**smile**

“Our society tends to dismiss kindness as a minor virtue, rather than the tremendous force it can truly be.” - Sharon Salzberg