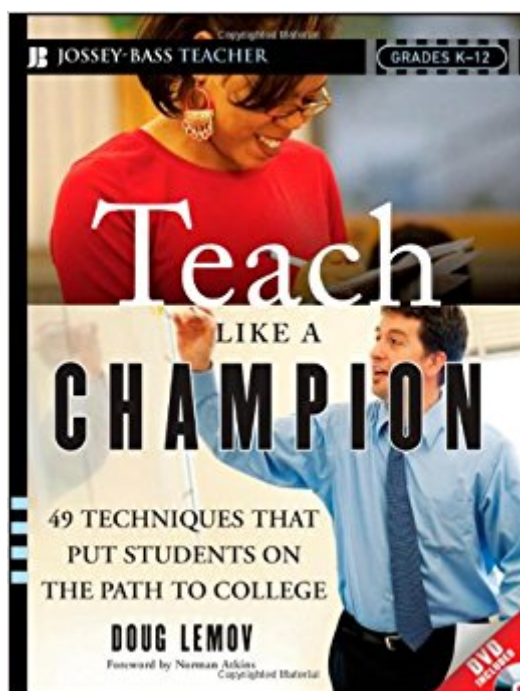


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Teach Like A Champion: 49 Techniques That Put Students On The Path To College



Synopsis

PLEASE NOTE, THIS EDITION IS CURRENTLY OUT OF PRINT. THERE IS A NEW EDITION AVAILABLE, TEACH LIKE A CHAMPION 2.0. PLEASE SEE THE LINK FOR THAT PRODUCT ON THIS PAGE. Teach Like a Champion offers effective teaching techniques to help teachers, especially those in their first few years, become champions in the classroom. These powerful techniques are concrete, specific, and are easy to put into action the very next day. Training activities at the end of each chapter help the reader further their understanding through reflection and application of the ideas to their own practice. Among the techniques: Technique #1: No Opt Out. How to move students from the blank stare or stubborn shrug to giving the right answer every time. Technique #35: Do It Again. When students fail to successfully complete a basic task— from entering the classroom quietly to passing papers around— doing it again, doing it right, and doing it perfectly, results in the best consequences. Technique #38: No Warnings. If you're angry with your students, it usually means you should be angry with yourself. This technique shows how to effectively address misbehaviors in your classroom. The print version includes a DVD of 25 video clips of teachers demonstrating the techniques in the classroom. E-book customers: please note that details on how to access the content from the DVD may be found in the e-book Table of Contents. Please see the section: "How to Access DVD Contents"

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Customer Reviews

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Top Five Things Every Teacher Needs to Know (or Do) to Be Successful -exclusive content from author Doug Lemov: 1. Simplicity is underrated. A simple idea well-implemented is an incredibly powerful thing. 2. You know your classroom best. Always keep in mind that what's good is what works in your classroom. 3. Excellent teaching is hard work. Excellent teachers continually strive to learn and to master their craft. No matter how good a teacher is it's always possible to be better. 4. Every teacher must be a reading teacher. Reading is the skill our students need. 5. Teaching is the most important job in the world. And it's also the most difficult.

Exclusive: Q&A with Author Doug Lemov 1. **'Great teachers are born, not made'**; You obviously disagree with this statement please tell us why. A few teachers may be born with an intuitive gift for teaching but I when I watch a great teacher I see mostly hard work and attention to detail. So believe that great teachers can be made. Every teacher can improve by using proven, concrete techniques in the classroom. This question brings to mind two amazing teachers I know Julie Jackson and Colleen Driggs. Julie and Colleen are always doing things like reviewing their lesson plans on the way to work and talking with peers about how to improve their craft. It's exciting to me that what we may attribute to natural talent is actually hard work.

You can choose to work hard and improve and become exactly the teacher you want to be. 2. What's the best way for a teacher to start the year with a new class? It's important to build systems and routines, as I describe in chapter six, "Setting and Maintaining High Behavioral Expectations" in *Teach Like a Champion*. The first day of school should be teaching students the right way to do things and practicing this over and over. Learning and practicing these systems and routines allows a teacher and her students to rely on this foundation for the rest of the year. I once witnessed Dave Levin (who is a founder of KIPP schools and a fantastic teacher) begin a teacher training workshop in an interesting way. Dave started by handing a mirror to every teacher in the room. He said, "Your classroom is a mirror. It looks however you make it look. The first step is to believe that your classroom mirrors your decisions. You can control it." That's the first step. To accept that as a teacher you decide who you want to be and how you want to create your classroom culture. You own it. Some people do it so you can do it. And that's a good thing. 3. If you could just change one thing in our nation's schools, what would you change? It's important that we do everything possible to support teachers so that they love their work and can be successful in the classroom. In my opinion, teachers should get paid the same as professional athletes or film stars. 4. This book is largely based on your experience with the group of charter schools you help lead on the east coast, called Uncommon Schools. Please tell us more about Uncommon Schools. Uncommon Schools is a group of schools that serve low-income populations in urban centers in New York and New Jersey. Across our 16 schools 98 percent of our students scored proficient in math and just below 90 percent in English. This means that our schools usually outperform more privileged suburban districts. We've been using the 49 techniques in my book for 5 years, with our teachers constantly refining and adding to them. Our experience has proven not only that that these techniques work and they can work in every school and in every classroom but that great teachers make them better and more sophisticated over time. And best of all the teachers who practice using them find themselves in control of a happy, rigorous classroom that reflects the motivations that brought them to teaching in the first place. Successful teachers are happy teachers.

Praise for *Teach Like a Champion* "Doug Lemov knows that teachers can create powerful learning environments that will help all students make dramatic progress. With *Teach Like A Champion*, teachers across the country will be better prepared to wake up on Monday morning and help their students climb the mountain to college. This book provides more evidence that highly effective

teaching is learnable—that many more teachers can draw from the tactics of their most successful colleagues in order to realize educational equity." -WENDY KOPP, chief executive officer and founder of Teach For America "Every teacher should own at least two copies of Doug Lemov's Teach Like a Champion. One for home and one for school, so that they are never far from the roadmap to excellence that lies within. Lemov pulls back the curtain to reveal that the apparent wizardry of the most successful teachers is really a collection of clearly explainable and learnable techniques. This will certainly be one of the most influential and helpful books that any teacher ever owns." -DAVID LEVIN, co-founder of KIPP (Knowledge Is Power Program) "Doug Lemov's Teach Like a Champion is a breakthrough book that is both visionary and comprehensive. If you are a teacher who wants to increase the academic success of your students, you should read this book. If you are an administrator with the same goal, you must get this book into the hands of your teachers!" -LEE CANTER, author of Assertive Discipline "Doug Lemov has captured in one place the specific, practical techniques used by the best teachers in some of our country's best urban schools. Any teacher, principal, or policymaker who is interested in what it takes on a classroom level to close the achievement gap should read this book." -DACIA TOLL, co-chief executive officer of Achievement First

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Lemov has captured in one place the specific, practical techniques used by the best teachers in some of our country's best urban schools. Any teacher, principal, or policymaker who is interested in what it takes on a classroom level to close the achievement gap should read this book."

—DACIA TOLL, co-chief executive officer of Achievement First

I bought this book after attending a meeting on teaching tips for seasoned teachers. It was a very wise purchase. It contains tips on how to engage students who opt out with the "I don't know" line, how to see to it that every student "gets" the correct answer, how to always achieve the desired classroom behavior -- without lecturing, etc. I'm still reading this book but have employed the tips that I've already discovered. They are easy to use and work very well. My English/language arts classes, which have always been orderly and productive (our school is off the charts in this subject on standardized testing), is now even better -- to the degree that I've received numerous compliments from my superiors. This book is an INVESTMENT in the lives of students, not simply a purchase. **BOTTOM LINE:** Buy it! You will be glad you did.

Lemov's book *Teach Like a Champion* has a great deal of worthwhile information for teachers. It is divided into two major sections--"essential" techniques (that aim to set up high expectations and help produce engaging and efficient lessons and a section devoted to reading strategies. I have taught for five years and found several of the techniques in the first section to be eye-opening. Many of the ideas seemed very straightforward and obvious when I read the description, yet I had never considered many of the techniques he outlines before. For example, I used what I learned from the "No Opt Out" technique the day after I read it. "No Opt Out" is used to let students know that they are accountable for information; they can't simply say "I don't know" and be off the hook. If a student doesn't know, the teacher can ask another student and then return to the initial student who could not answer the question first. I like this because it sets the tone in the classroom that every student is held accountable, and I think it helps build confidence--the student sees that they can answer a question. The text offers the explanation of the technique and then examples of it in use (sometimes offering dialogue of how to implement the technique in class). Lemov outlines several techniques like this that are quick to read and easy to implement, making this book very user friendly. There were, however, several techniques that do not fit my teaching style or the climate of my school. For example, SLANT mandates that students sit up, listen, ask and answer questions, nod your head, and track the speaker. Lemov discusses S-SLANT, which also mandates that students smile--the first S in the acronym. In essence, these are good skills to teach students, but watching it on film

(with the dvd included), the technique seems too regimented and forced. I want my students to discuss good audience membership and decide to participate; I don't want to constantly tell my students they must smile and track me wherever I move in the class. One of my biggest criticisms of this text is that the techniques seem very strict and "cookie-cutter," like I mentioned above with SLANT. Additionally, Lemov does not offer research that supports the claim that using these techniques will close the achievement gap. He uses a lot of generalizations like, "One consistency among champion teachers (...)," but then provides no research to support his claim. Additionally, he makes it sound like his techniques are the only way to achieve the desired outcome. It seems like he is saying if you want to set high academic expectations and be a champion teacher, you must use techniques like "No opt out" and "Stretch it." Finally, if you are looking for a book specifically on reading instruction (section 2 of this text), I would suggest you look elsewhere. Again, this section has valuable information and can be a nice introduction to how to teach reading, but he provides very little theory and research. If you are looking for a quick read that has practical reading strategies, check out Kyleene Beers' *When Kids Can't Read What Teachers Can Do*.

This book has some awesome strategies for teachers. This is a NEW teacher MUST. Buy it as a gift for college graduation, or give it to a friend or colleague! They will thank you forever! Buy it for yourself--you deserve it! Inside you will find teaching strategies that will help you hold your student accountable. No more accepting "I don't know" as an answer. Very positive approaches to dealing with behavior issues/ preventing behavior issues. Tips for using every minute of instruction, and many many more great ideas. The text comes with a CD that has video clips of people implementing the strategies. Anyone can take these easy to use suggestions and tweak them to fit their teaching style. Best book I have read as a teacher to increase my repertoire of "positive" strategies for guiding my students in their education. I love it so much that when I misplaced my copy, I purchased another one! (Now I have two and will gift one to a friend!)

This is a great book for all teachers, new and old alike, and I wouldn't say that about many books in education. There are some great ideas in here that you can implement in your classroom right away. I know that I have definitely improved my questioning skills as a result of this book, and I'm sure you'll learn something new yourself! Whether you read it cover to cover or just a chapter here and there, you will learn a few new tricks.

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