# iceberg"It's a bit like an iceberg - pupils and the world outside schools only see the tip of the iceberg; they never see what is below the surface, the actual work which occupies teachers for the other 90% of their time." Michael Rutman

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**WHAT DO TEACHERS DO ?**

(based on ideas collected by Michael Rutman)

**Among other things teachers...**

* are **absolutely reliable.**
* keep themselves well informed about events in the world.
* remain up-to-date with the latest developments in teaching theory.
* take every opportunity to practise the language.
* find out what (English) films, theatre groups etc. will soon be in town.
* listen regularly to the BBC World Service
* subscribe to at least 2 teachers' magazines.
* are aware of administrative changes concerning the teaching of English.
* share ideas with other teachers.
* keep up-to-date with the political and social changes in Britain, the USA and other English-speaking countries.
* read some new novels.
* try not to ride too many hobby horses at one time.

**Before entering the classroom teachers ...**

* prepare their lessons carefully but not too rigidly.
* decide when to use the various teaching aids (OHP, recorder, video etc.)
* decide on teaching methods and strategies.
* photocopy **sparingly.**
* devise tests that are meaningful.
* check exercise books regularly.
* know what they are going to say **first** in the lesson.
* have something up their sleeve if the lesson goes wrong.
* know the aims of the lesson.
* think about which pupils require more attention/activation.

**In the classroom teachers ...**

* are aware of the atmosphere.
* check the class register to see what lesson(s) came before.
* check the register in case there was homework.
* check the equipment is in order/the blackboard is clean.
* check which pupils are absent.
* begin the lesson right away.
* give homework **before the end** of the lesson.
* activate/motivate pupils (teacher as "animateur/animatrice)
* stand/sit in different positions.
* try to see the lesson from the point of view of the class.
* pace the lessons to meet the needs of the pupils.
* gain time by giving shorter tasks.

**And a teacher's job also includes** collecting suitable material, assessing, marking, talking to pupils and parents, writing reports and references, discussing with colleagues, attending staff meetings, organizing parents' evenings, organizing timetables and other administration (form teachers), serving on sub-committees (department, school) arranging trips and excursions, organizing study weeks, attending further education seminars, viewing films .......