

Dear 12,

I was very relieved to get back to you after my foray into J's class yesterday. I taught them pretty badly. J has got them to state of good opened-upness and I just marched in with my content as if I could not see them as people or feel where they were at.

OK, so I asked them where they were at, but in a formal and not very meaningful way. One person knew quite a bit about corpus linguistics and mumbled about not knowing much at all. I should have leaned on her a bit and got her to spill her beans. Instead I went along with her surface protestations ( Latin) about knowing very little. A missed opportunity. (The last utterance is a good example of **deletion**; the subject is missing. To be well formed the utterance should read: " I missed an opportunity- another example of "meta-model" [see my last letter] )

The work was very hard for some participants and I went too fast. I had to get through my "stuff". What rubbish! Teaching needs to serve learning and if it doesn't it isn't teaching. The really pernicious thing is that some of the people who struggled in that class come from systems that have taught them to blame themselves, rather than blaming inept teachers.

The content I brought them was intellectually and linguistically firm so, with the majority of people in the room, there was some learning going on. John was kind to me about their reaction.

Have you also, at some time, made some of the glaring teaching errors that I list above?

The balance statement for your yesterday, Mario, is not all in the red. You made the right decision yesterday afternoon when you stayed with smaller group and let the larger group go off to practise four positions work ( ego state, other state, disassociated state and resource state ). You had stirrings of worry during the half hour they were out of sight ( Did they need coaching... what if one of the protagonists got into deep water emotionally?) But the mood of their return showed that independence of practice was just what they had needed, including the pair who started doing it "by the book" and then Francesca broke away and found herself a FUTURE resource state! It is very important to judge when your out-of-sightness is important. Sure there was risk involved, but you would not do it, I think, in a group where there were people seriously on the edge. You'd be too scared.

You were right, I think, to enjoy the awakesness and awareness that the work with Denise brought you. Technically, maybe you should have paid fuller attention to her statement that the problem lay at **identity** level. Maybe you should have invited her to stack up several resource states from different times in her life to deal with the large problem she was facing. When she took her single resource state into First position she told you that she had nearly lost it- she had to walk back to the resource position mentally to "recharge" her battery. The danger with NLP quick solutions is that, if they are not strong enough, they don't stick long enough to heftily affect reality.

It was fun working with the little group on role-reversed letter writing. Maybe when people have finished reading this letter the people who did the letter writing should tell the others about it.

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The issues outlined above are precisely those that I deal with during my daily 20 minute supervision. Have you ever worked under supervision ( super-vision)? It is a good way of getting disassociation, and of getting your classes out of your system. Very helpful in avoiding piling stuff up on the heads of innocent spouses... S married me .. not each group I work with!

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This morning I hope that we will cover these bits and pieces:

- the review of Friday and Monday's work....
- some work on advice giving , an area that Traude brought up last Wednesday- I gave you a reading on advice giving and 11 other educational road blocks.
- A reminder exercise on the centrality of getting rapport before you do anything else.
- A bit more work on Logical Levels so they cease to be thing of wonder and become a working tool..

This is my current fantasy, but who can tell what the group or individuals will turn up with?

And so to bed - good night,

Mario.

P

NLP My Lang