



Royal University of Bhutan
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Institute of Language and Culture Studies
Taktse, Trongsa, Bhutan



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Date: 18/11/2014

Director Lungtaen Gyatso

Sarah Martin
Director of Client Services
Macmillan New Ventures

Subject: Donation of i>clickers

Dear Ms. Martin,

I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to you for your generous donation to our college of 30 i>clickers. This is a technology that I hadn't even heard of before Douglas Johnson introduced it to us. Who, then, could have imagined how well it suits our students and enables them to come forward with their thoughts and opinions when they would normally abstain.

As Bhutan is a small and fairly remote country in the Himalayas, we have not had much exposure to modern technologies in our classrooms. Our teaching methods are in flux right now, however, and we are trying to make changes from teacher-centered classrooms to student-centered. Because the older traditional methods emphasized merely listening to lecturers and reciting others' thoughts, we find that our students tend to be shy and are often afraid to voice their opinions. This lack of participation seems to change dramatically with the i>clickers.

With Doug's help, we organized some qualitative studies with three instructors in eight classrooms, and the results have been astounding, with changes from 20% of students holding up their hands to answer questions, to 100% of them answering using the i>clicker.

Our instructors used a method described in an i>clicker video, in which it was recommended that students vote on their own in answer to a multiple choice question. Our instructors noted the results and then had students discuss the problem peer to peer, after which they conducted re-votes. Instructors noted that many students changed their votes to the correct one, but it was the animated discussion that instructors were most pleased with. Students seemed to get energized from the i>clickers, perhaps not only because of the fun technology, but also because of the anonymity it afforded.

We will now have to consider ways in which we can bring these i>clickers to many more of our classrooms. Thank you for the wonderful gift of learning, both for our students and for our instructors, who have been exposed to an entirely new way of teaching and engaging students.

With deepest appreciation,

Lungtaen Gyatso