

University of Puerto Rico

Aguadilla Campus

English Department

Seminario Observations

Genesis A. Cartagena

EDPE 4335: Seminar and Curriculum of Learning at the Elementary Level (Presencial)

Dr. Torres

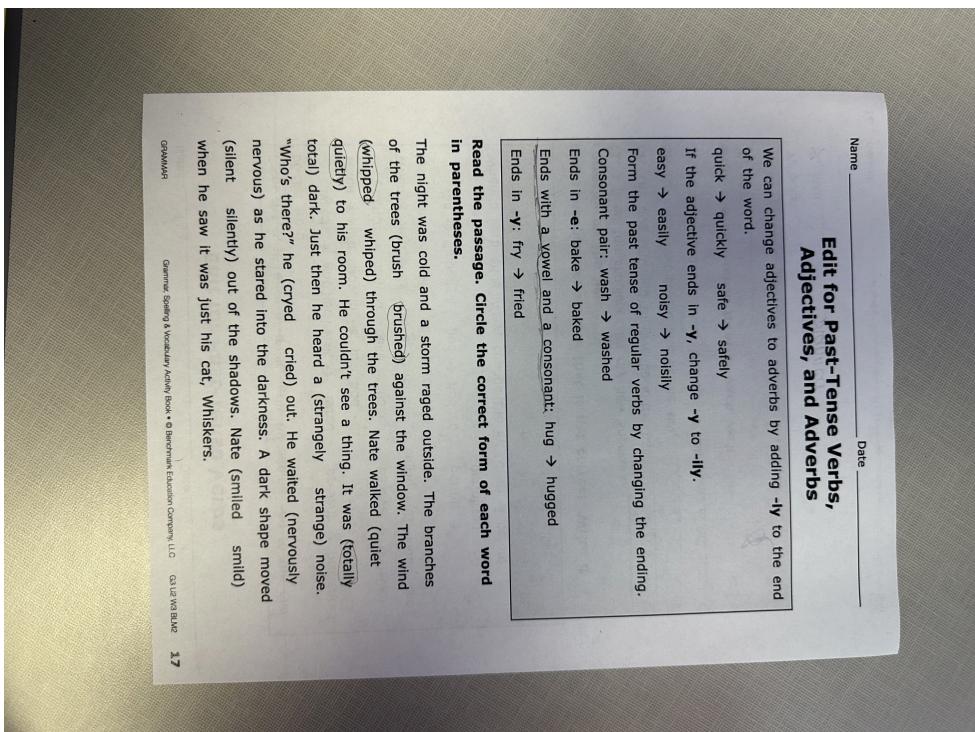
Usually in schools like public schools, they do 1hr of each class Ramey School is located right next to our University of Aguadilla and behind Job Corps in Aguadilla, Base Ramey. It's one of the two military schools in Puerto Rico. They use Career Ready Standards for Literacy (CCRS), not our PR standards. I will be putting the standards down below in the Appendix. The number of students depends on which grade they're in most students in eighth grade there are four different groups, but in 12th grade and other grades, there are usually only two groups of kids. Every single class has 10 to 12 kids not like in public schools with 30 kids like I've said so it's very few kids at least you don't have to stress out and you can easily remember their names and the social economic background of these kids are not to be rude, but they are made of money or at least not struggling in financial wise since the also the lunches in that school is paying, but the kids pay for it for two dollars, but the adults pay seven dollars for the meal. The kids are not struggling like in public schools since public schools are free for everyone. A lot of people struggle and they're very privileged in school like most of them have a lot of technologies and just nice cars or just parents who just take them anywhere. Hence, it is also surprising how the kids act around with money with the little kids in third grade especially they asked me how much I was getting paid for observing. I said not a lot well nothing basically and this one girl Arianna said "I'll get my dad to pay because he's rich" and you don't hear that in public school so I was very taken it back on that Comment. this affects their learning not a lot and helps them learn a lot more since they don't have to struggle a lot at home. I will say they don't. The parents don't pay attention to them a lot. They are just given iPads, but some parents do help the kids with homework, they don't have to worry about not having food at their place at least and they don't have to come stressed of course some of their parents are station so some of them do just not have one parent present at their home and that also can affect their mood in classes for now, I haven't seen anything too bad that they've been sad.

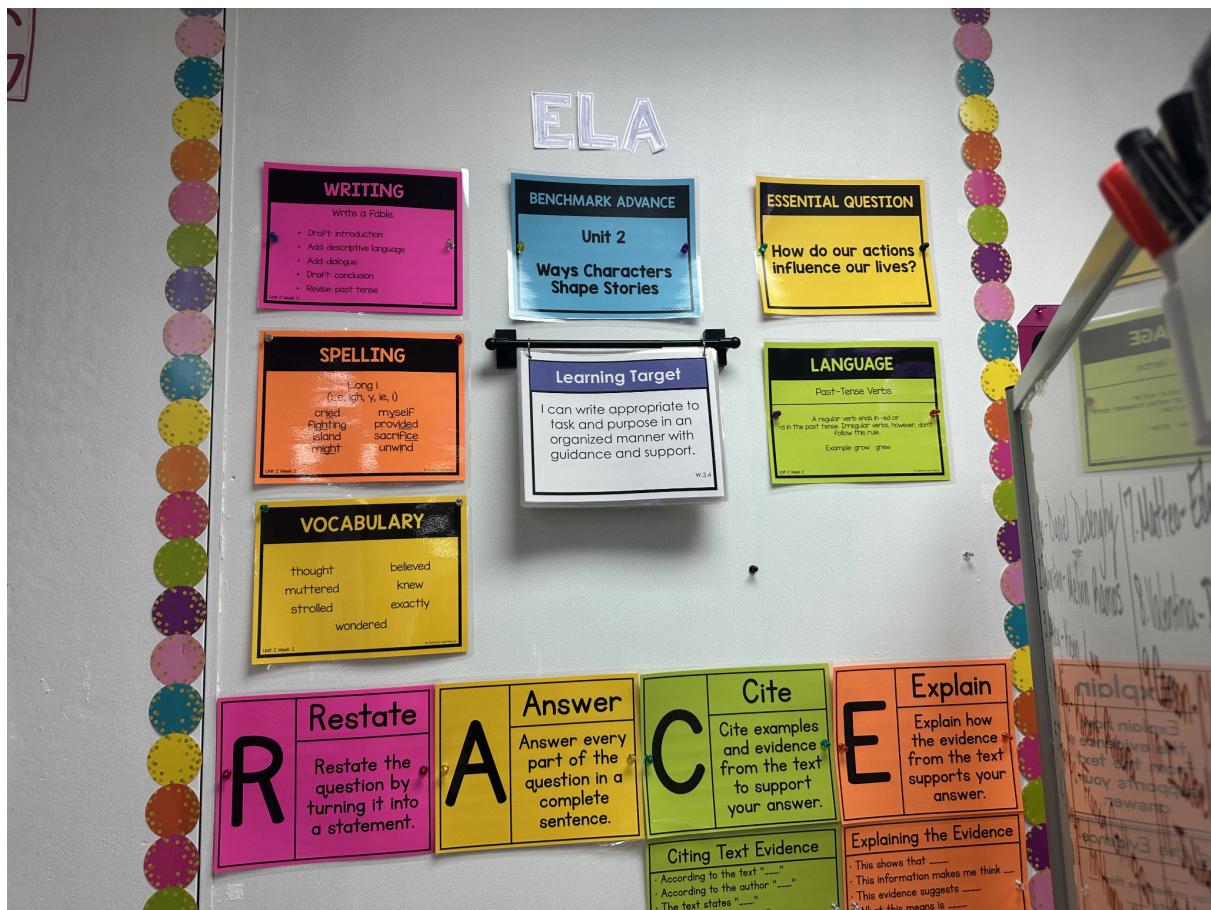
The English classes in Ramey are 2 hours longer than normal 1 hr classes. The first hour is the usual English class, but the second is the workshop. Each group gets to do a worksheet of spelling or vocabulary words set by the teacher in the week. It was evident that the school was well-funded, with a focus on English language instruction. Despite the school's emphasis on English, I was surprised to learn that Spanish classes were introduced in the 4th grade. This isn't uncommon for private schools in Puerto Rico, which tend to prioritize English education. I chose to observe these classes because the students in each grade range displayed varying levels of proficiency in English. The third graders, while fluent in spoken English, needed help with written English. Their enthusiasm for learning was apparent, especially when compared to older students who had already mastered the language. It was fascinating to witness younger students' eagerness to acquire language skills, whereas older students seemed more complacent due to their proficiency in English.

Since it's a DODEA school they have more resources compared to public schools and it's very small compared to public schools. In Ramey they have teachers for ESL and special education, they come to class to help the kids. One teacher helps one girl in the class who has extra help for her. The ESL teacher comes in for about an hour to help all the students with the worksheets. I was amazed at how much effort they put into teaching them English compared to other schools. When I was observing last semester in Adams the class the 4th graders were not at a high level in English and with the special education kids they take them away from the class to do extracurricular activities. Which I do not agree with since it just takes away from the class and leaves them to fall behind a bit. Ramey leaves the kids in the class and helps them with the subject at that time. I wish they did that with public schools but they don't have enough funding. Ramey school offers a lot of services for the kids, especially kids with autism ADHD, or any other disorder depending on their level of needs, they would have an extra helper in hand, or class in my third-grade class an extra ESL teacher would

come and help the students that ESL teacher would go to every single grade to help for an hour or at least 30 minutes in class in Ramey school like I said they offer extra help unlike public schools. Now back to the topic, the 3rd grade class has 12 kids I am in 3A with Dessire Robles, and she has 12 kids in her class which is very small compared to public schools with 20 or 30 kids in a classroom. In third grade class with Miss Robles. She was very strict with the kids and they would listen. There was one kid named Mateo that I also helped with that he would not do the work or would misbehave. I tried to control or calm him down by talking about his favorite things and trying to add his favorite things to the class to make it more interesting but sometimes he would just not do the work. I will say I am very friendly with the kids so it's hard to be more strict with the kids and I'm trying to be more strict in the third-grade class since I'm going to be student teaching that class I observing the kids did not have the third-grade kids did not have any cell phones on the only use of technology was the Chromebook given to the schools and I was very surprised that third graders had Chromebook and knew how to use them especially they're giving an extra class on how to type in computers and be a faster typer class. They ask a lot of questions which is very good and they do learn quickly and fast and they do remember a lot most of it right now is vocabulary words and then this unit has been about stories and how characters change and affect lives and they need to write a fable at third grade, which is very surprising. They could write a fable. They have a lot of creativity in the class, which is nice. I think the kids enjoy the ELA class a lot. While I was teaching, the kids were a little rowdy, of course, they were third graders and I had to reprimand them with a little speech. I felt I did feel a little sad that I had to. I had to reprimand them since I tried to be very kind to the kids so after this experience, I have learned to be more strict for my practice next year and not think the kids do not have empathy for the kids. It sounds rude to not have empathy, but if you take empathy with the kids, they will use that to their advantage as adults in their lives, they have I

have to show them to respect everyone even people their age, and to respect every adult, no matter what age. I truly learned what it means to be a teacher while yes I am nervous about my practice I am also excited to teach kids my way.





The mystery of the golden apple tree

One day in a game called Minecraft and there was a man named Steve he had spent all night building a house. So he decided to sleep all day but when he was about to go to sleep he saw a pig and the pig said "There is going to be a volcano eruption so that means you have to leave the house". Steve thought for a second "If I leave the island I have to leave my home" so Steve packed his stuff he walked outside he said good bye to his house

