

Qualities of Good Teachers by Arthur W. Combs

- The good teacher is one who has learned to use himself in an effective way. Learning to teach is not learning to do but learning to be.
- Good teachers are phenomenologically oriented. They are keenly aware of the perceptions of other people and use this understanding as the primary frame of reference for guiding their own behavior.
- Good teachers see themselves in essentially positive ways.
- Good teachers characteristically see other people in positive ways as able, trustworthy, friendly, and so on.
- Good teachers are essentially self-revealing and genuine.

The Six Basic Factors Affecting the Learning Process by Arthur W. Combs

1. **Need:** People learn best when they have a need to know.
2. **Self-reference:** Information affects behavior only with respect to its personal meaning for the behavior.
3. **Emotion:** The greater the meaning of an event to the persons involved, the greater the emotion.
4. **Challenge and Threat:** Learning is facilitated by challenge, inhibited by threat.
5. **Identification:** Learning is a social activity deeply affected by feelings of oneness or belonging.
6. **Feedback:** Learning is dependent on constructive feedback.

Crucial Concepts by Arthur W. Combs

- All behavior, without exception, is completely determined by and pertinent to the perceptual field of the behaving organism.
- An educational system that ignores or rejects affective aspects of behavior runs the risk of making itself ineffective.
- What students feel about themselves vitally affects every aspect of their behavior and learning.
- Values are generalized beliefs that serve as basic guidelines for selecting our goals and the behaviors we choose to reach them.
- Empathy is a primary requirement for success in the helping professions.
- If learning is personal and affective, conditions that induce feelings of belonging should be apparent in the classroom.
- Humanistic education is no fad, no flash in the pan. It is firmly rooted in new conceptions of the nature of the human organism, the causation of behavior, and the processes of learning.
- Managed systems emphasize control, direction, and selection of goals by the leader. Person-centered systems begin from a basic trust in the capacity of the human organism to find its own best ways and concentrates on creating conditions to facilitate that progress.
- Humanism is no fragile flower, too tender for a tough world.