



Classroom management language

What kinds of misbehaviour could cause a teacher to say each of the things below?

“How many times have you done that today?”	
“Great imagination, Serge, but can you leave that till later?”	
“What’s that noise?”	
“Keep the noise down, please”	
“What’s that in your hand?”	
“How would you like it if someone did that to you?”	
“Are we keeping you up?”	
“Did someone go to bed a little late last night?”	
“What is the rule about...?”	
“What would your mother say if she saw you doing that?”	
“I can see something that someone should put into his desk”	
“Is this art class?”	
“Last warning”	
“If the wind changes, you’ll be stuck like that”	
“Would you like to share that with everyone?”	
“Somebody isn’t paying attention”	
“Let’s leave that for break time, shall we?”	
“That is disgusting”	
“You are a very bad mannered boy/ girl”	
“I heard that!”	

Would those sentences (in English) work in your classes?

Mark each of the sentences above with G (good/ suitable for my classes), WU (students won’t understand if I say this), TD (too direct) or TI (too indirect)

Improve the sentences that aren’t good, e.g. simplifying ones that students won’t understand.

Try your improved sentences on someone from another group and see what they’re response is.

Your partner will do something else naughty or explain it to you. Say something to make them stop and see how they respond.

What other school rules and typical types of misbehaviour do you need classroom language for in your classes?