

# TEACHING HACKS

## 7 THINGS TO SAY WHEN STUDENTS WIN OR LOSE

1

Encourage the effort, not the win.

"Great job! I can see you put a lot of work into this."

2

Help them focus on variables they can influence.

"What variables can you control in an academic competition?"  
Answer: your own preparation, attitude, focus and effort.

3

Help students manage their expectations.

"What's at stake if you win? If you don't? Why?"

4

Set up short timed competitions in your club or classroom.

"The best way to get better is to practice!"

5

Treat competitions like experiments.

"What worked? What didn't? What will you change next time?"

6

Help students evolve to a higher form of positive attitude.

"You did your best to plan, but the situation changed.

How can we adapt and make the most of the situation?"

7

Reassure your students you will respect them and their effort regardless of outcome.

"Whether you win or lose, I know you're a great student because I've seen how much you care. It shows in how hard you work."

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