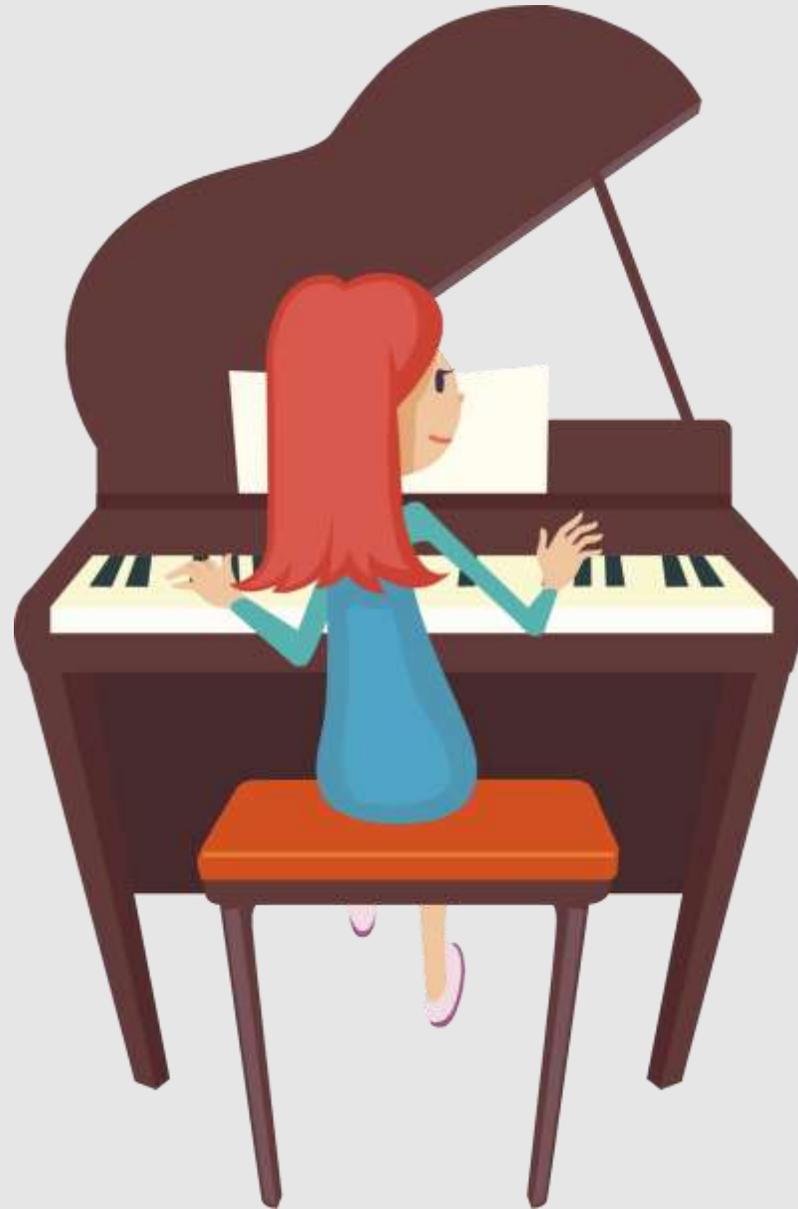




# ALL IN THE FAMILY

2020 UMTA INDEPENDENT MUSIC TEACHERS SURVEY RESULTS

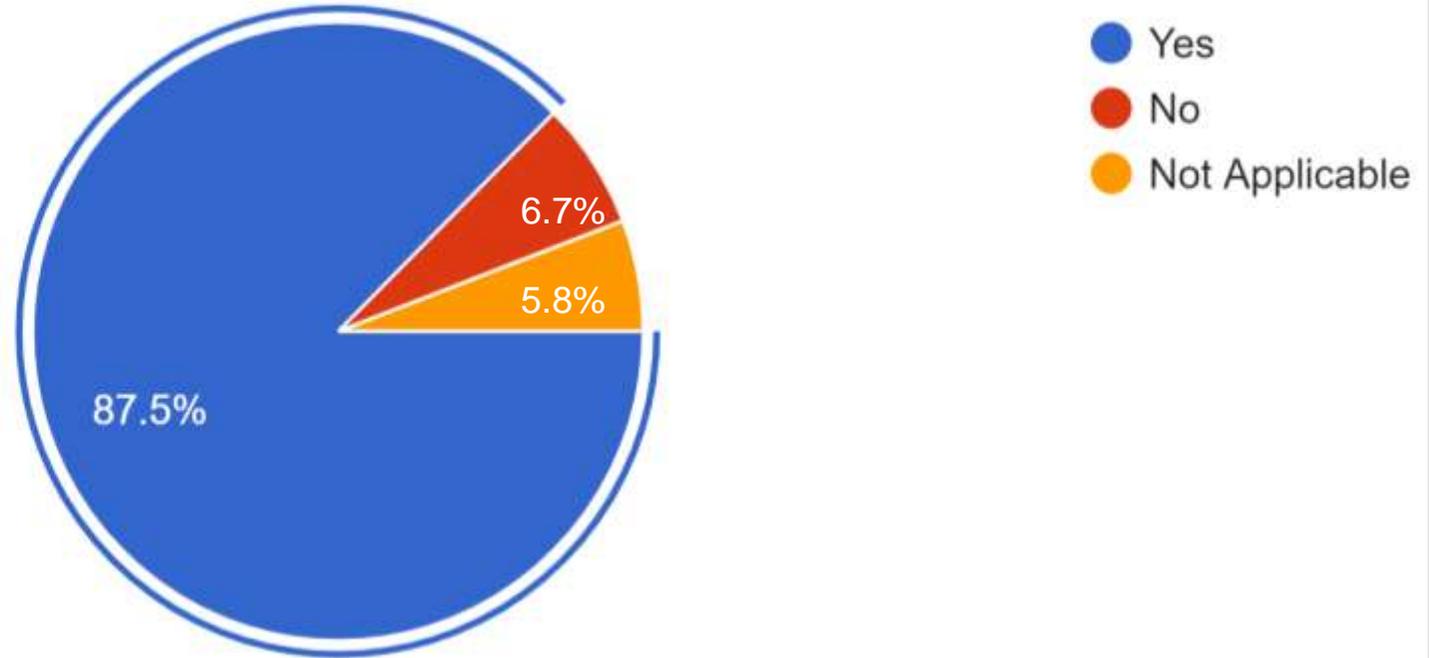
*Can I successfully teach my kid, grandkid, niece, nephew, other family member, or should I send them elsewhere for lessons?*



*Is offering free, reduced, or bartered lessons a good option for me? If so, how can I successfully make it work?*

1. Have you ever taught your own child(ren) private music (instrument or voice) lessons?

120 responses

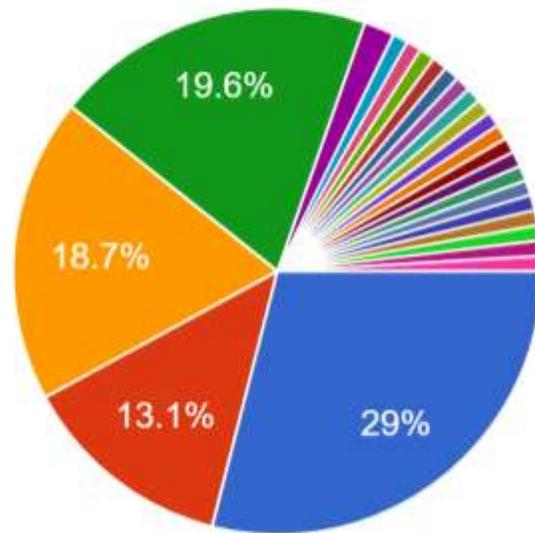


## 2. If no, please describe why not:

- My children tend to be more responsive to other adults, taking instructions or listening better.
- It didn't work for our personalities.
- Spent so much time teaching, found it was too much to teach and supervise practice of my own kids on top of my other students.
- I wanted the most qualified teacher to teach my children.
- I want to be the cheerleader, not the coach.
- Child not old enough or is disabled.

### 3. If yes, which best describes your child(ren's) teacher situation?

107 responses



29% I was their only teacher for their entire lesson career.

19.6% I started my kids until they reached a certain level, then I took them elsewhere.

18.7% I started my kids, but it didn't work so I sent them elsewhere.

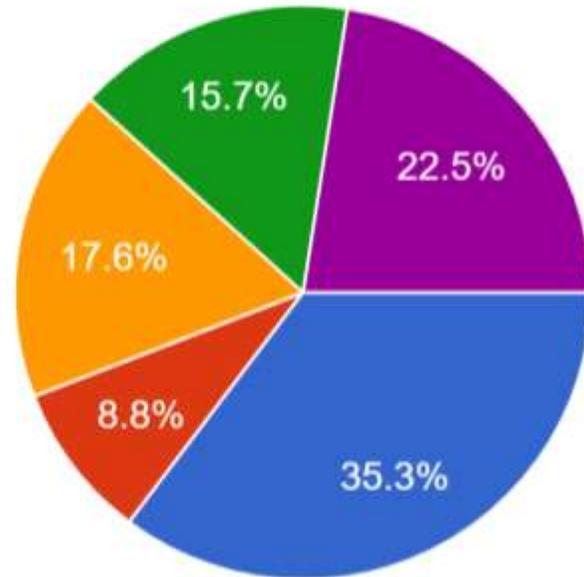
13.1% I was their main teacher but occasionally took them to lessons with others.

## 19.6% Other responses

- Currently teaching own kids, might change my mind later and send them to another teacher
- Started with another teacher then taught them myself
- Some I taught, others I sent to another teacher
- Taught my child with a partner student to help keep lessons formal
- Traded lessons with another teacher- she taught my kids, I taught hers
- My kids chose different instruments to learn

## 4. If yes, how did you find it best to structure their lessons into your life?

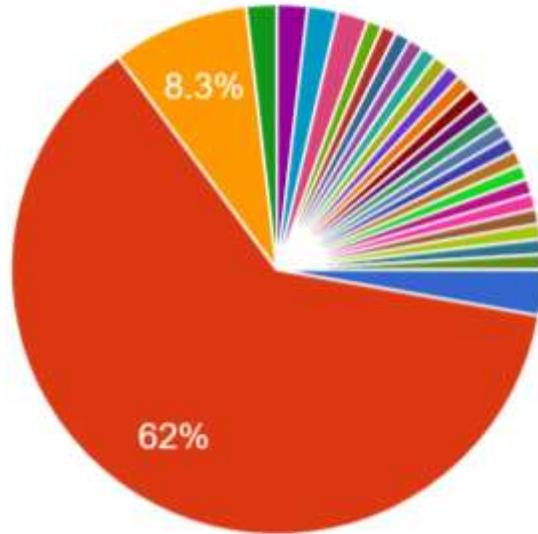
102 responses



- A set lesson time as part of my studio schedule
- A set lesson time but not when other students came.
- Whenever we could fit it in but we were regularly once a week.
- Whenever we could fit it in as often as they needed a lesson.
- We didn't have lessons, just lots of guided practice.

## 5. What describes your practice style with your child(ren)?

108 responses



62% I practiced with them in the beginning and then weaned them off.

8.3% I wish I could've guided their practice, but I didn't have time with my other teaching.

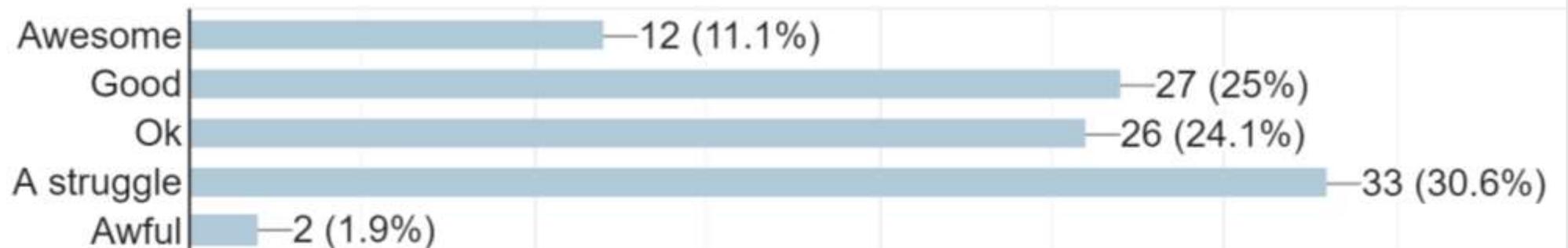
2.8% I never practiced with them.

Remaining 26.9% : I practiced with them...

- As needed
- Often
- Daily
- Once a week
- I'd only check in
- With new pieces
- More when they are younger
- When they asked for help
- When they had questions
- When they were struggling
- When we were playing ensemble pieces

6. How would you rate your overall experience teaching your own child(ren)? Please pick only one.

108 responses



Awesome with some. Not good with others. Ups and downs.

Good, but difficult with younger siblings to care for.

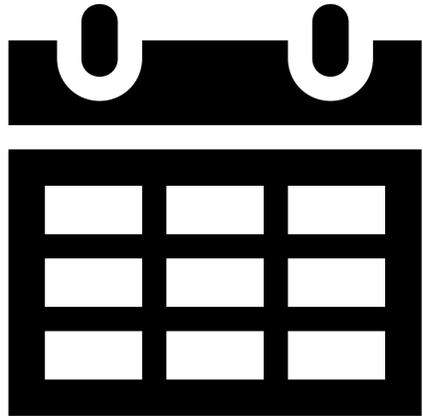
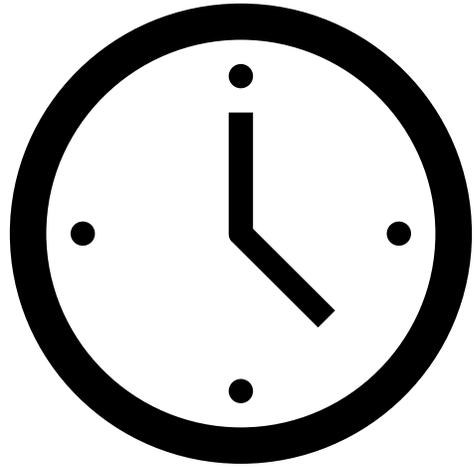
Good, until they got busy with sports.

7. What advice would you give to others about successfully teaching their own children?

Teaching your own kids works when...

Teaching your own kids does not work when...

*You know your child better than anyone else. You understand your child's learning style, capability, how hard to push, when to try a different approach, etc. There is nothing better than helping your child progress and make music together.*



Teaching your own  
kids works when you...

## Advice #1:

### Make a scheduled lesson time

- Set a lesson time like you do for your other students.  
Stick to it!
  - Schedule their lesson in between two other students so you won't cancel it or postpone it.
  - Fit them in just before or after other students.
- Keep their lesson time sacred - don't allow interruptions or distractions.

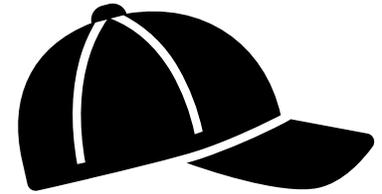
## Advice #2:

### Put on the Teacher Hat at lessons

Teaching your own  
kids works when you...

- Remind them at their lesson, you are the teacher and not the parent.
- Have them call you "Mrs. \_\_\_\_."
- Make them go outside and knock on the door.
- Wear teaching attire for their lessons.

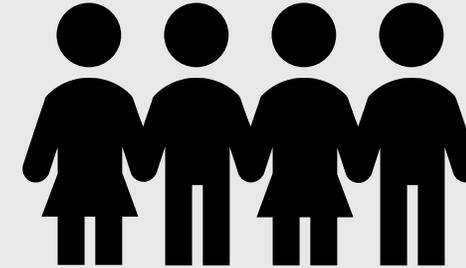
*Separate correcting them as a music teacher from correcting them as a mother. It is a hard thing to do because your children can take correction much more personally.*



Teaching your own kids works when you...

## Advice #3:

Treat them the same as your other students at lesson time.



- Treat it as if you are paying someone to teach them.
- Involve them in the same incentives you use for your other students, they feel more motivated as part of a studio.
- Consider how they learn and at what pace and do what works. Some kids love structure, while others like to explore and work on projects. Find their learning style.
- Follow through with rules and have the same expectations for them the same as you would for your other students.

# Advice #4: Other Hints



Teaching your own kids works when you...

- Don't assume that they know more than they really do.
- Are ready to move them on to a more advanced teacher when the age or level dictates.
- Focus on teaching them good technique, and make sure they get a lot of performance opportunities.
- Your teaching style meshes with your child's learning style.
- Your personalities match up.
- Let them guide the level of intensity.



## Advice #5: Mood Hints

Teaching  
your own  
kids works  
when you...

**Are incredibly patient: more patience than you might normally have!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

- Enjoy your time with your children.
- Make it fun and positive.
- Avoid judgement based on your intimate knowledge.
- Don't compare your own piano skills or experiences to their experiences.
- Encourage them about how they are doing well.
- Praise whenever possible!
- Try not to overreact and discipline while teaching.
- Stop being too strict and back off.
- Laugh a lot!
- Say “sorry” a lot during frustrating moments
- Are understanding
- Are as patient and diligent as you are with your other students
- Don't allow your kids to argue with you
- Are flexible with your expectations.
- Keep it humorous.
- Have fun, enjoy the experience.
- Try not to beat them.
- Expect the best.

Teaching your own kids works when you...

## Advice #6: Practice Hints

*Practicing was just part of our daily routine. If you want to eat, you practice.*

- Make sure they have access to an instrument to practice- have multiple instruments in different rooms so they don't have to wait for each other to practice.
- Get to the instrument 5+ days a week. Have consistent times to practice.
- Give them time to process and learn on their own, without interrupting.
- Let them make mistakes at practice. Correct at lesson.
- Guide their practicing and/or give them lessons as needed.
- Check their work daily instead of just once a week: *I found this to be less stressful and more productive than having just one weekly lesson with them.*
- Every few days ask them to play what they have learned or improved.
- Accommodate them: *One of my children would only practice if we played "Cat and Mouse" around the grand piano, so I did it. Now that child taps me when he wants to mute me and untaps me when I can talk. As long as we get to practicing, I don't mind accommodating.*

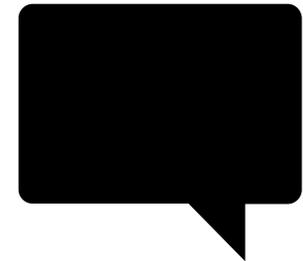
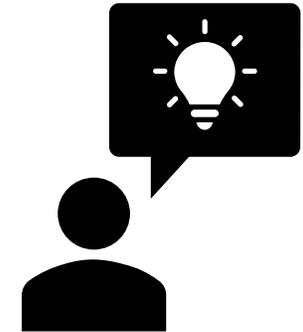


*Having practice incentives built into my studio has helped me not have to nag them to practice. They want to practice because they have a goal that they want to earn. And they see my other students progressing and want to be a part of that. It helps balance out my two roles: as parent and teacher.*

# Advice #7

## Teaching your own kids works best when *they*...

- Like and accepts your help, responding to you as a teacher more than as a parent.
- Are willing to listen to you and take it seriously.
- Want to please you rather than oppose you.
  
- Understand how much work is involved to be successful and play at the level you do and are willing to commit to doing the work required.
- Have watched other lessons and understand how the lesson structure goes.
- Feel some control. *We use the Decide Now app.*
  
- Have a voice in choosing which pieces to learn.
- Are encouraged to become an independent learner early on.



# Advice #8

## Teaching your own kids does *not work* when...

- They are resistant to you and won't accept help.
- They are in a bad mood.
- You are too demanding.
- It's a power struggle.
- You shove it down their throats.
- It becomes an argument or puts stress on the relationship. Relationship should take priority!
- They are busy with other activities that they enjoy more than lessons.

*As parents we know what our children are capable of and can be harder on them than we would on our own students when we think that they are not meeting the high standard we expect. I think it works when you can give yourself and your child the nurturing understanding and patience that you'd give your students.*

## Advice #9: Word from the wise & sending them to another teacher

*Teaching your own kids works for certain personalities.*

*Some of my kids understand that when I am teaching their lesson, I am teaching as the piano teacher and not mom. My third child had to take lessons elsewhere because this child could never stop tantrumming when I tried to give help or correction.*

*Your kids did not live through the time you spent to develop your skills, so they may be unprepared for the struggle that they will have to go through to match your level of accomplishment.*

*Realize music may be your thing, but it may not be theirs. Be kind.*

*You know your child. If it isn't a fit, or there is a better option for them, don't feel like a failure for sending your children elsewhere. If it works, great.*

*Having them answer to another adult is far more effective. It's motivating, plus there were tons of other things they needed to be accountable to me for.*

*Mother/daughter is what I preferred, rather than teacher/daughter.*

*Send your own children to an outside teacher. Pick a teacher you trust that has the same philosophies and goals as you, or you will be disappointed.*

*They need the encouragement of someone else often once they become teenagers or reach the stage where they "know everything."*

8. What have you learned from either teaching your own children, or watching them take lessons from others, that has helped you be a better teacher?



**PATIENCE**  
PATIENCE

ENDLESS PATIENCE

- Show forth more love and patience.
- Express genuine interest in their lives. Show compassion.
- Be pleasant. Stay calm . Refuse to argue. Don't get emotional.
- Be positive. Recognize and praise them. Compliment and encourage them. Point out successes and improvements.
- Have more fun! Use incentives, games and teams.

# What I've learned that's made me a better teacher:



- Consistency is key: weekly lessons and daily practice.
- Bribery is a close second: rewards for good progress and incentives.
- Realize student potential and expect a lot, but don't be so bossy. Let students make more choices.



- No two learn the same way. Each student has different goals and require different teaching styles, curriculums, lesson structures, and motivations. One size does not fit all.



- Student and teacher relationship is key. Students work hard to please a teacher they like and respect.
- Some students/kids need someone else telling them what to do.



- Students don't remember everything the teacher says.
- Structure of assignments and detail given needs to be simple, clear, and easy to follow.
- Home tutoring helps.

- Students need to become aware of the progress they are making.
- Parents should always be the child's cheerleader.
- Teachers should keep a teaching log, journal, or sticky note with what to focus on the next time you meet with student, thereby not cramming everything into one session and making things more relaxed.
- Change things up occasionally, adjusting expectations, repertoire, and focus, keeps students on their toes.
- Game based learning is very helpful.
- Allow my students to practice without intervention at all, but still have a practice schedule for them to follow.
- Big motivators are having a performance coming up and duet partners outside of the home, a friend.
- A student will not learn to play simply because his or her parents want him to learn to play. Make sure the child wants it.

## Things I've learned to better teach my own kids:

- Allow them to explore and learn at their own pace, setting aside my expectations.
- The value of doing daily sight reading with them.
- Parents tend to be much harder on their own children, we need to treat them as well as we do our other students and never micromanage.
- Give them the basics, reiterate them, then be quiet. Expect 6 days a week from them.

# Things learned from teaching your own kids:

- How kids practice, learn, and absorb music on a daily basis instead of just once a week.
- The family dynamic involved when requiring practice time.
- Understanding the assigned workload more realistically.
- Your own kids are more honest than students about how they feel and what they like and don't like.
- You can try new ideas and methods before introducing them to the rest of your students.

*To watch for the 'breaking point' - with your own kids you feel you can push them more, but you realized that every kid has a point where it's too much. I have also learned that they can meet high expectations and that even if they have a tough week, they will get through it. It helps me to know that I can keep high expectations with all my students, and not to worry too much if they have a hard week now and then. It's probably a good thing that they do.*

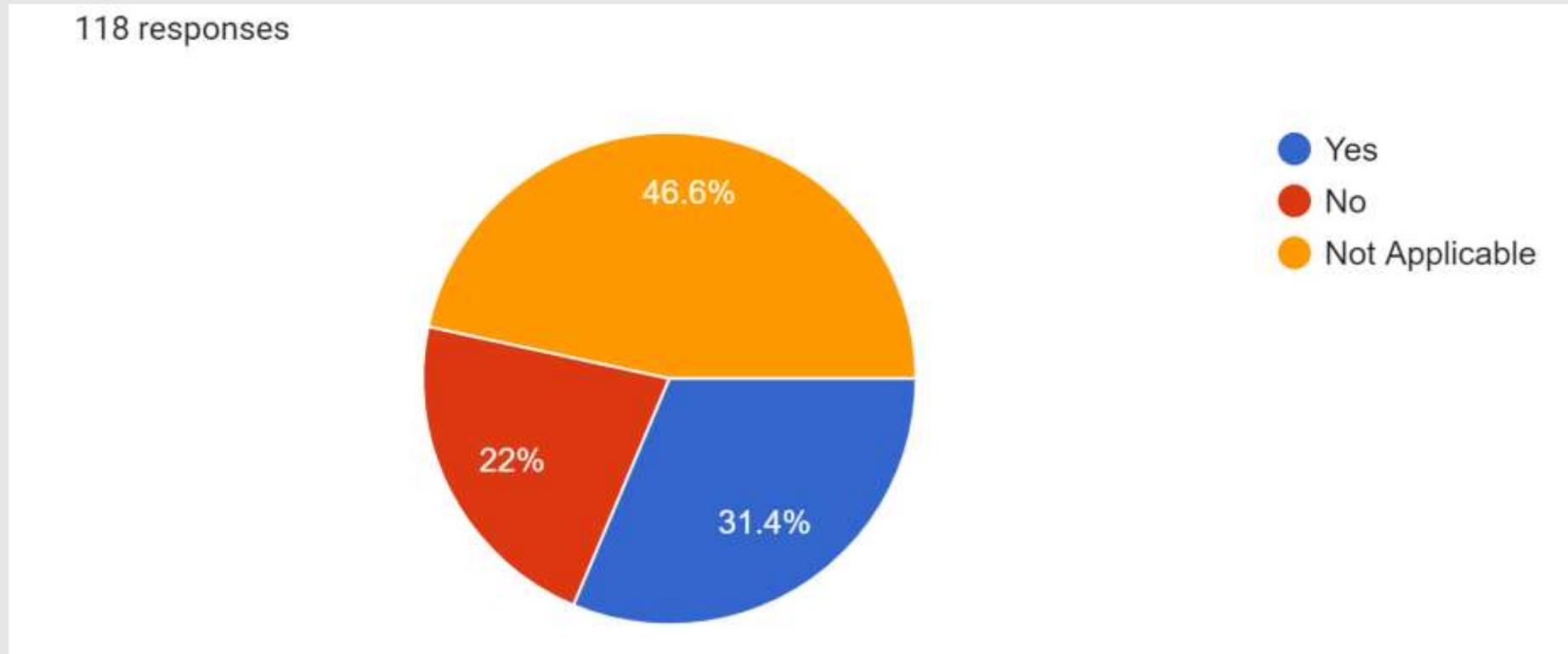
# Things I've learned from sending my kids to other teachers #1:

- Tips and tricks to improve my own teaching and help me grow professionally.
- Different teaching styles.
- Ideas about practice requirements, awards, and good ways to teach specific concepts.
- Techniques for relaxation.
- About Federation and UMTA.
- Other teacher's policies.
- The value of playing duets with my students.
- The value of communicating clearly with parents, not just expecting that students will pass information along.
- The value of setting smaller short-term goals instead of one distant future goal.

# Things I've learned from sending my kids to other teachers #2:

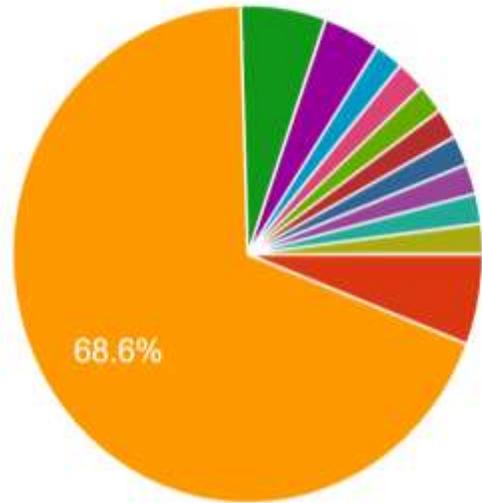
- *The respect they have for their teacher. They are willing to learn from them. It makes me want to be the best teacher and role model for my students as I can be. The parent is placing great trust in me and in my skills as a teacher.*
- *Other teachers were able to get my kids to work harder and they would listen to them.*
- *I had not expected enough of my child as my student and had been a little over-protective when planning performances. My child loved the way another teacher challenged her.*
- *It's ok to be "strict" or to say what you mean and don't "beat around the bush." My child's teacher was more to the point and she got a whole lot done without wasting any time. I learned a lot by watching her. She also chatted with them more before the lesson started and although she was very strict and demanding, her students loved her and keep in touch as they grow up and become adults.*
- *How positive and patient other teachers are with my children, so I take that into my own teaching.*
- *I watched my child's teacher be kind, thorough, and very clear in her instructions.*

9. Have you ever taught your grandchildren private music (instrument or voice) lessons?



# 10. Did/do you charge grandchildren for lessons?

51 responses



68.6% No

11.9% No, but...

-they took me to Europe

-they water my flowers for me

-their parents sign a contract, so they understand what is expected for no charge

-they pay for books and fees

5.9% Yes- Adjusted Fee

13.6% Not Applicable

# 11. What advice would you give others about successfully teaching grandchildren?

## **Treat them like other students**

- Put them on your schedule just like any other student.
- Give regular lessons.
- Have the same expectations for them as you do for other students.
- Be consistent!
- Love and have high expectations for both.
- Let them indicate interest and keep it fun.
- Be loving yet firm. Put on your “teacher cap”!
- They will practice better if there is an exchange of energy in some form: they need to give something from themselves in return for lessons.



## **Enjoy the benefits to being Grandma/Grandpa**

- Make it a special time just for them.
- Keep in touch often and reward them for progress.
- It's easy to do our best teaching with our grandchildren because we are giving them all the knowledge, skill, patience and love that we have!
- It is easier to teach grandkids because you are not involved in the practice end of it.
- This is a legacy I'm leaving with them.
- Treat them like your other students...expect the same things...but encourage them more with lots of hugs and laughter!
- We spend a lot of time laughing.

## 11. Continued

What advice would you give others about successfully teaching grandchildren?

### **The power of the mother**

- Follow their mother's lead. Don't get between her plans, wishes, and desires in lesson material, practice, or performances and your own well-meaning plans.
- The mother's encouragement and participation makes for success.
- Don't expect them to be like your kids. Their parents have the final say. Be nice and supportive but don't expect miracles.

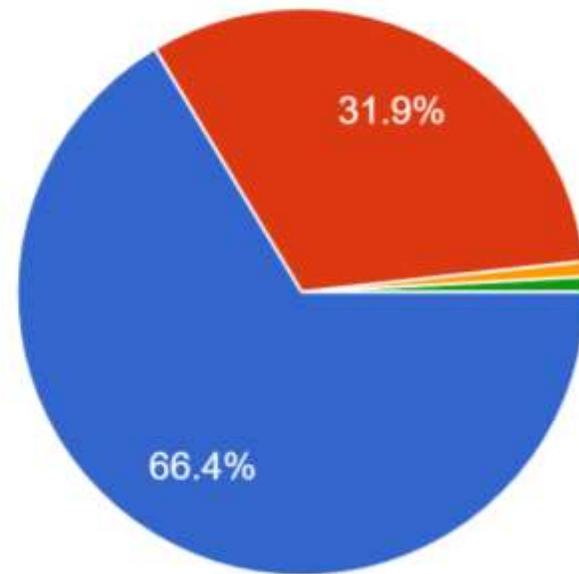


### **Don't do it. Send them elsewhere.**

- Some of my grandkids wimp out a bit, and I really wish they would take from someone else.
- Find a teacher you trust and have the parents pay.
- Your own children will be more flakey when grandma is teaching. They will be more responsible if they are taking lessons from someone besides grandma.
- I didn't teach them for long because the better place for me was in the audience clapping wildly.

12. Have you ever taught other family- nieces, nephews, in-laws, etc?

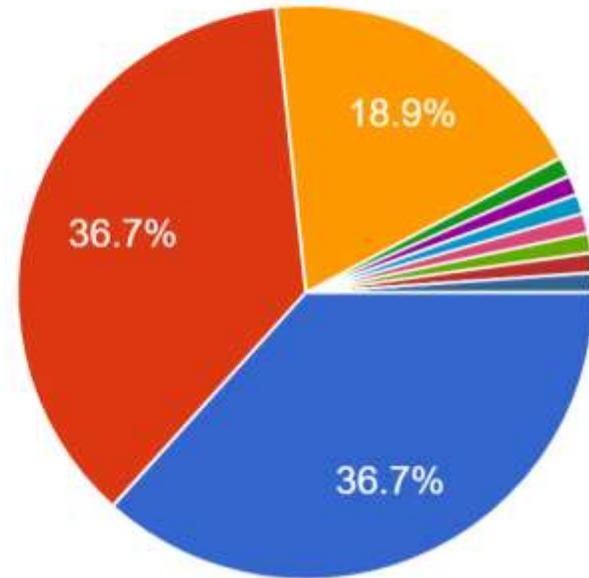
116 responses



- Yes
- No
- Mother-in-law
- Not private lessons -- I did have a niece in a college class

# 13. Did/do you charge extended family for lessons?

90 responses



36.7 % Yes - same as other students

36.7% Yes- adjusted fee

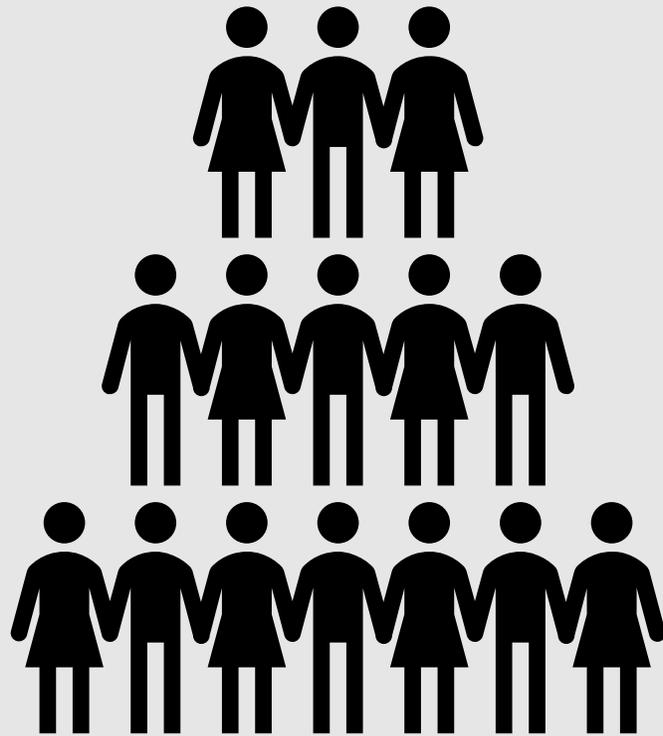
18.9% No

Adjusted Fee when there is a true need

No, to trial online lessons a few years ago

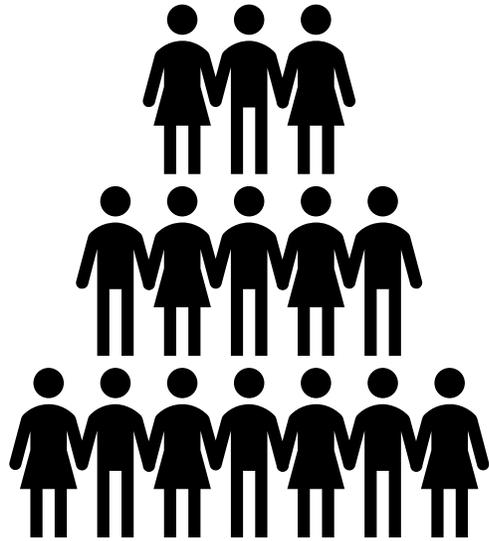
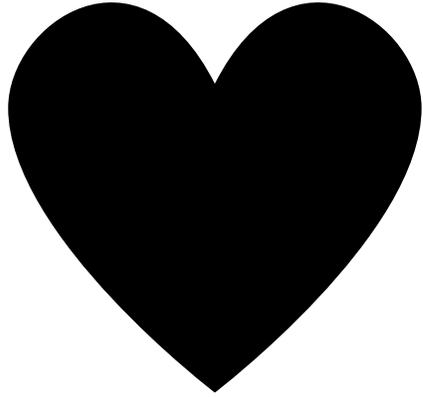
Traded for French lessons

# 14. What advice would you give others about successfully teaching extended family?



## **Have good policies like for your other students**

- Determine upfront you are teaching them as a professional not just a casual event.
- Communicate from the beginning time boundaries, policies, expectations, and that you will evaluate how well it is working as you go along. They sign the studio policy too.
- Communicate regularly.
- Treat them the same as all students and have the same rules. Be consistent with lessons, whether online or in person, and have the same expectations for them as you do your other students, including payment and make up lessons.
- Give your very best teaching to them, just as you would to any other student. Don't slack. Expect their best in return.
- Keep lessons separate from other family interactions.



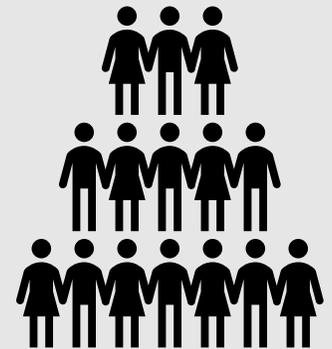
# Show forth kindness. Preserve the relationship.

*I treat them the same as regular students, give them my best and a big hug at the end.*

- Preserve the relationship over being hard-nosed about every policy. Be flexible.
- Praise and reward all efforts.
- Be more patient with the student and family than you might be with other students.
- Keep family relationships separate from the teaching one, don't be biased -too soft, too strict, etc.

# What about payment?

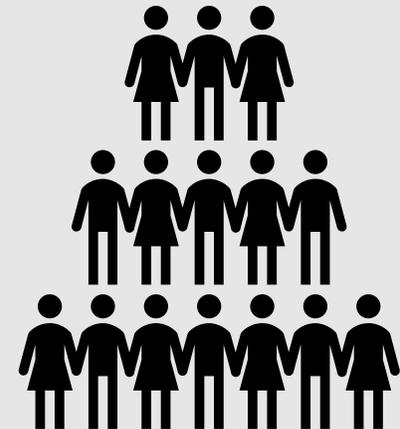
- *I give a pretty big discount to family, but there is a danger of being taken advantage of. Some people won't take it as seriously and won't ensure their children practice or show up to lessons because they are not paying much. So you have to have a good relationship with them to be able to talk through any issues that arise. I have declined to teach some family members because I know I will just end up feeling used.*
- *I would say definitely charge your regular rate. There needs to be a sense of value so that the best outcome can happen, and they get the best experience. You will treat the student differently if they aren't paying like a regular student. You will either resent them, or you will get too relaxed and feel like they are a 'filler' that you can just reschedule at will. Or they may feel like they can do this as well. Or they may not take it as seriously and not practice as well. If they are paying, then you will treat them with the same respect as any other student, and they will value the service more and take their practice more seriously.*
- *DON'T do it for free*



# Warnings about teaching extended family:

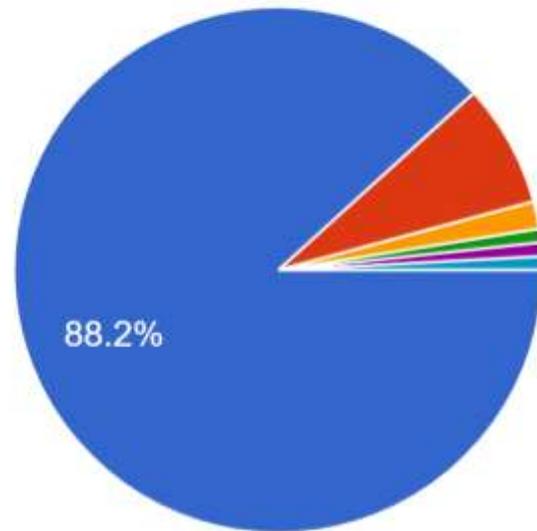
- Don't believe they'll be geniuses. Work with them where they are at.
- Be careful - it can affect the relationship you have with their parents.
- It can work, but again, some family may not fully appreciate what you give and do for that student.
- Try not to be too sensitive if the children's parents compare you to other teachers.
- Teaching my nephews taught me that I had to be careful with my sibling relationship.

*I learned that I will never teach to extended family again. I have taught several nieces and nephews, and I have gotten my feelings hurt very deeply enough times and had to pretend that my feelings were not hurt just to keep peace in the family. It is not worth it.*



# 15. Do you teach students in your neighborhood or church group?

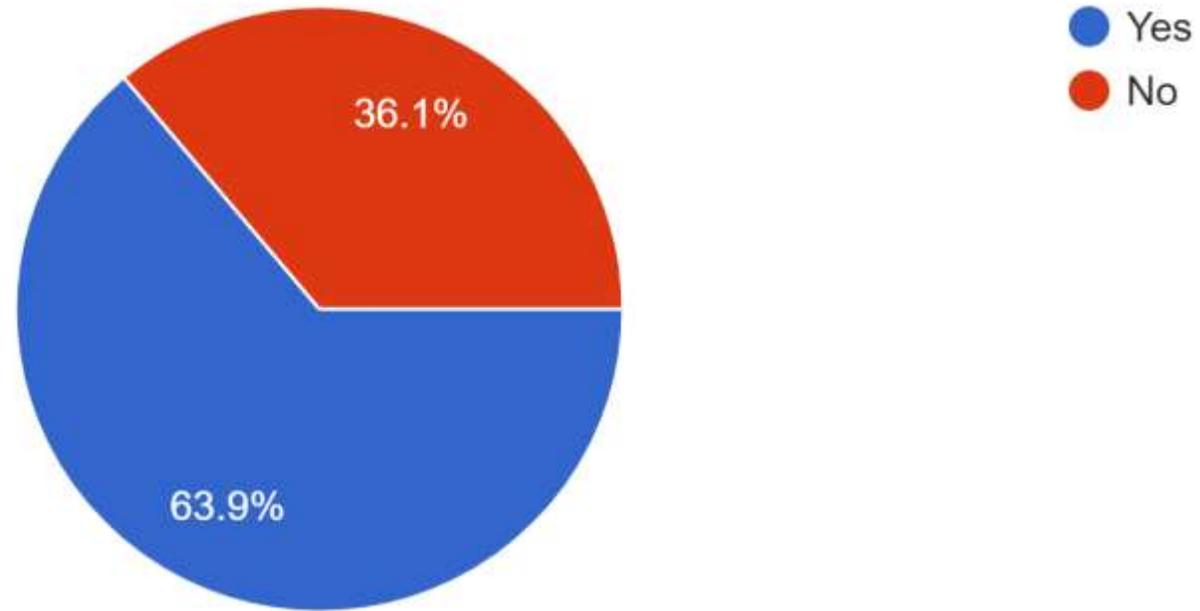
119 responses



- Yes
- No
- I have in the past, but it's not the best.
- I don't as a general rule, but have made exceptions
- A couple. They are exceptions, not my general rule.,
- I have taught some in my church group before, but I currently do not have students from my church.

# 16. Have you ever bartered for lessons?

119 responses



17. If yes, what were the circumstances, and did it go well, or badly? If no, why not?

## **I bartered lessons for babysitting/childcare**

### **When it went well 😊**

- My friend would babysit when I needed to go out for the day. It was deducted from lesson prices.
- Parent would babysit my young kids for an entire afternoon of teaching each week in exchange for their child's lesson.
- Child loved to stay with the family of one of my students.



### **When it went badly 😞**

- They wanted to match tending time with length of lessons. Forget it.
- When I walked out my door to see where a student might be, and I saw my 2-year-old walking up the street... should've been over a block.
- The babysitter became more trouble than my own kids.

## **I bartered lessons for cleaning: studio, kitchen, window, car, house**

### **When it went well 😊**

- Parent was a professional house cleaner and cleaned during lesson time.
- Window cleaning for a month of lessons.
- Commercial building studio cleaning for 1 free lesson.
- Car cleaning for a reduction in rate.

### **When it went badly 😞**

- When students would skip lessons for dance and school events and then we were always trying to figure out who owed whom.



## **I bartered lessons for lessons: voice, theory, violin, piano, etc.**

### **When it went well 😊**

- I traded piano lessons for theory lessons with a student. It was really great for both of us! My motivation for strengthening my theory skills was to enable me to see harmonic progression more quickly in preparation to give me worry-free memory during performances.
- We taught each other's children. It cut the pressure of teaching my own child. We were able to consult and support each other and we were mostly on the same page as far as teaching went.

### **When it went badly 😞**

- My student was less committed to practicing than I was.



## **I bartered lessons for hair services: cut, color, styling**

### **When it went well 😊**

- We treated each other as professionals and accounted for services dollar for dollar.



### **When it went badly ☹️**

- The student has a regular lesson time and I get my hair cut and colored in return but not as often as I'd like. When the pandemic hit I continued to teach her child but wasn't getting my hair done. No attempts to compensate me fairly were made on her end. I don't think I would do it again without coming up with more specific terms.
- My hair turned out orange and I decided that was not a good trade for me!

## **I bartered lessons for other services: cooking, quilting, sewing, photography, mechanical work on car, life coaching, professional training, massage therapist**

### **When it went well 😊**

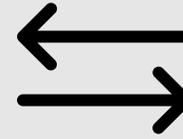
- 1 month of lessons for a parent who will accompany recitals.
- Free lessons for short time in exchange for senior picture photo shoot.
- 1 free month of lessons for car mechanical work.
- Arranged with hourly rate in mind so it was fair to me.



### **When it went badly ☹️**

- I traded lessons for a once a week dinner. It was nice, but eventually it didn't feel equitable, so I stopped.
- I traded with a massage therapist. It didn't last long. Easier to keep everything separate.
- Two group training sessions per week from a personal trainer. The student had limited interest and the trade was not successful.

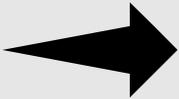
# What makes bartering work?



- A straight trade such as a weekly service for a weekly service of comparable value.
- If the expectations of the trade are very clear.
- Keeping a good record.
- When the trade is made with someone is honest and committed to keeping it fair.
- Convenience: even if the trade doesn't seem equal.
- It is hard to trade apples to apples. Keep communication open to be sure it is working as intended.

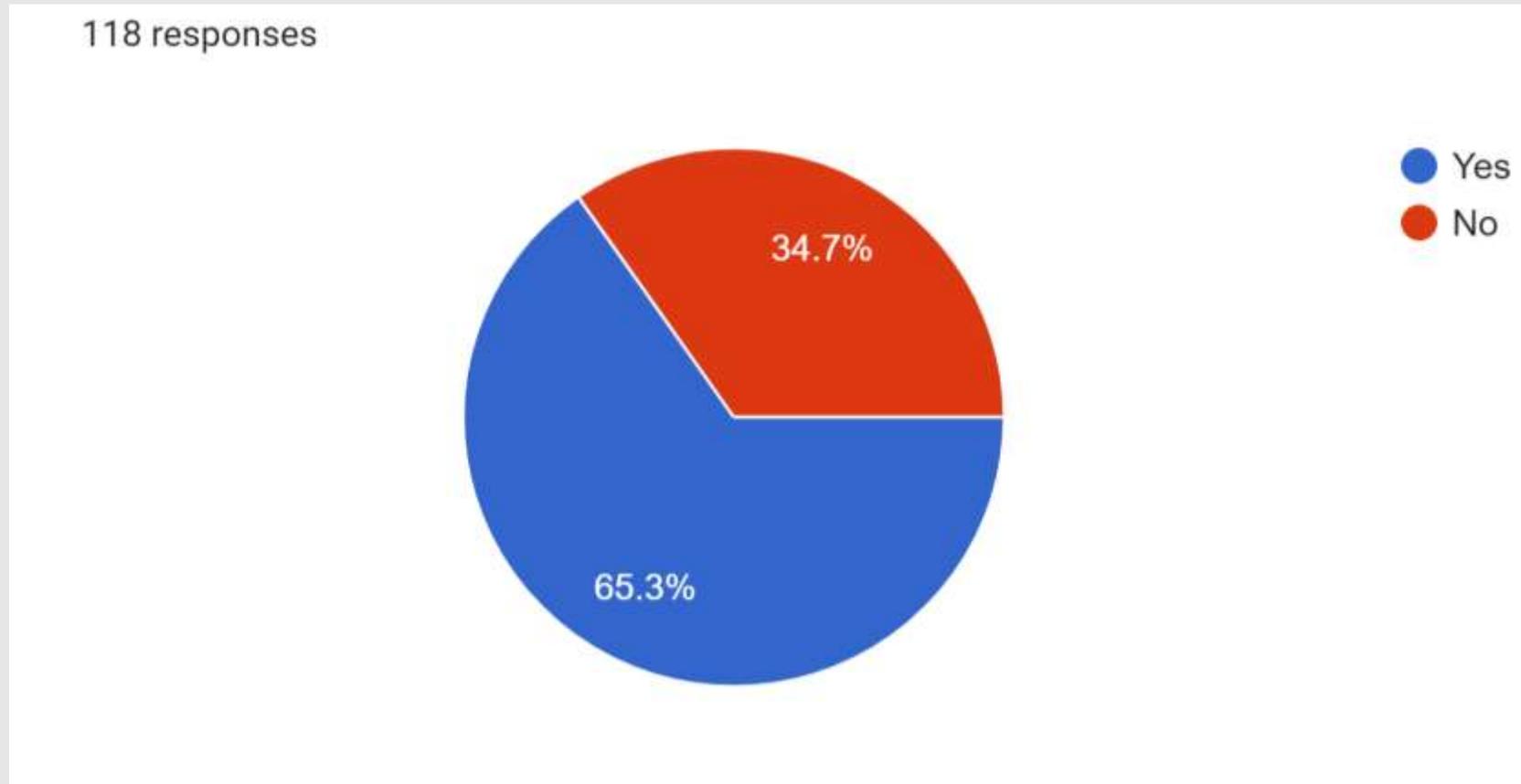
*Works smoothly if you consider it a Tuition Trade for a semester or a year without getting nitpicky. A generous spirit of “good will” rather than an hourly accounting for “fairness” is the secret. Inevitably I will give free lessons in the trade. I think of it as my service opportunity.  
Money doesn't matter more than kindness and love of your student.*

# When does bartering not work?

- When the value exchange is different.
  - When you feel like you did not receive what you bartered for.
  - When you feel like you didn't get an even exchange.
- 
- Students may rack up lesson fees
  - Someone always gets the short end of the stick.
  - You may start to feel taken advantage of.
  - It can cause bad feelings.

*Barter just doesn't seem to be treated with the same respect as cash.  
Ultimately you realize money is a convenient way to barter for each other's services.*

18. Have you ever taught a student for free?



19. If yes, what were the circumstances, and did it go well, or badly? If no, why not?

**Warnings** about teaching **Free Lessons**

*It would devalue my time and skills and I am a primary wage earner for my family.*

*Also parents don't value cheap or free lessons as well as costly ones.*

*I don't recommend it. It's better to have the student and parents have skin in the game.*

*Having a reduced fee for them worked better for me.*

*It was horrible. I got burned twice and will never do it again.*

*I gave free lessons, and it went well... until I charged them. Then they quit immediately.*

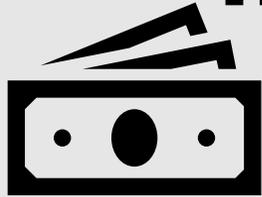
*Parent lost job but when they got another, they didn't volunteer to start paying for lessons again. It was an awkward time for me.*

*My only recent concern is that I feel the parent has come to expect that this arrangement will go on forever.*

# Free Lessons

*compassion*

## Most popular reasons why teachers teach for free



- Parents can't afford lessons
- Parents experience job loss
- Child experiencing crisis or traumatic experiences
- Charity/donations/auctions/fundraisers
- To teach friends or family
- Families with many kids

*Lessons are therapy,  
a "balm" to one's soul.*

*We applied rules and if they didn't follow them, it would be the end of (the free) lessons.*

# Free Lessons

## **Free lessons that went well 😊**

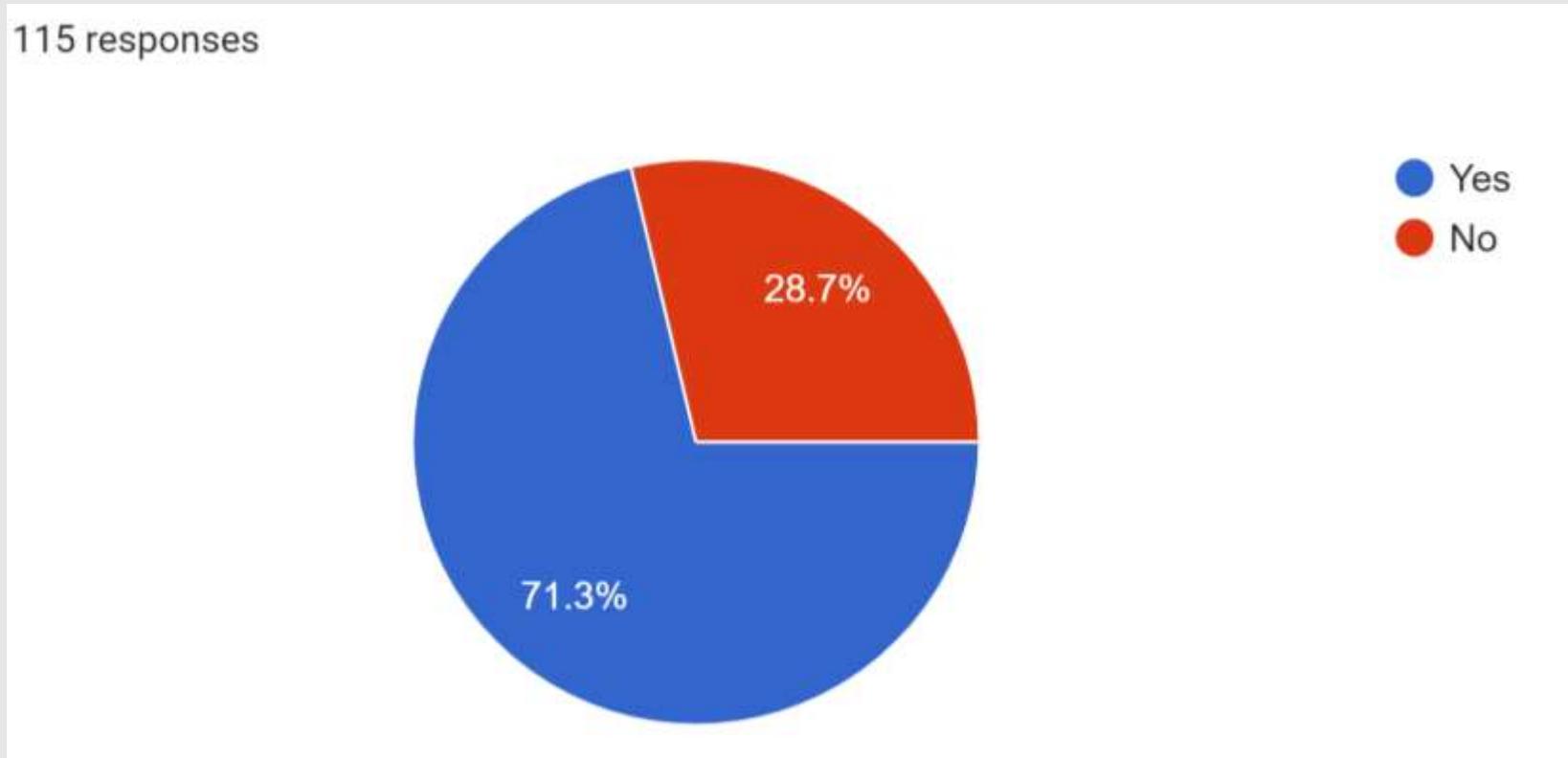
- Student wants lessons, is motivated.
- Teacher doesn't want to see them quit and approaches parents about it.
- Parents/guardians were appreciative & supportive.
- Student practices and comes to lessons consistently.
- Only offered for a specific time period.
- Often given under guise of a “scholarship” sometimes with practice requirements (which may be the only way a proud dad will accept)
- Sometimes done on an exchange basis: homemade bread, dinner, etc.

## **Free lessons that went poorly 😞**

- Student didn't practice or take it seriously.
- Student was inconsistent attending lessons and shows up when they want -early or late.
- Student/parent doesn't communicate well.
- It was easy for either party to cancel or let a few weeks go by without a lesson.

*I should've required some form of payment. Both parties feel better if there is a balanced exchange of energy.*

20. Have you ever taught another music teacher's child?



# 21. What have you learned from teaching another teacher's child?

## **Warnings**

- It didn't work well for me. The other teacher would reassign the lesson I had given.
- Music teachers are normal parents. Some are excellent at encouraging practice, some are not!
- The other teacher felt she was busier than anyone, even me. I had a difficult time getting her to respond to my communications.
- Sometimes the student wants to learn the way their parent teaches.
- The children of teachers have a difficult time finding time to practice.
- The other teacher sometimes wants things done differently.
- They are a little pickier.
- They may decide to teach their own children.
- Some kids are responsive and talented, and some are not just like anyone's child. You can't assume that a teacher's child will be any better as a student.

## **Positive experiences teaching another teacher's child.**

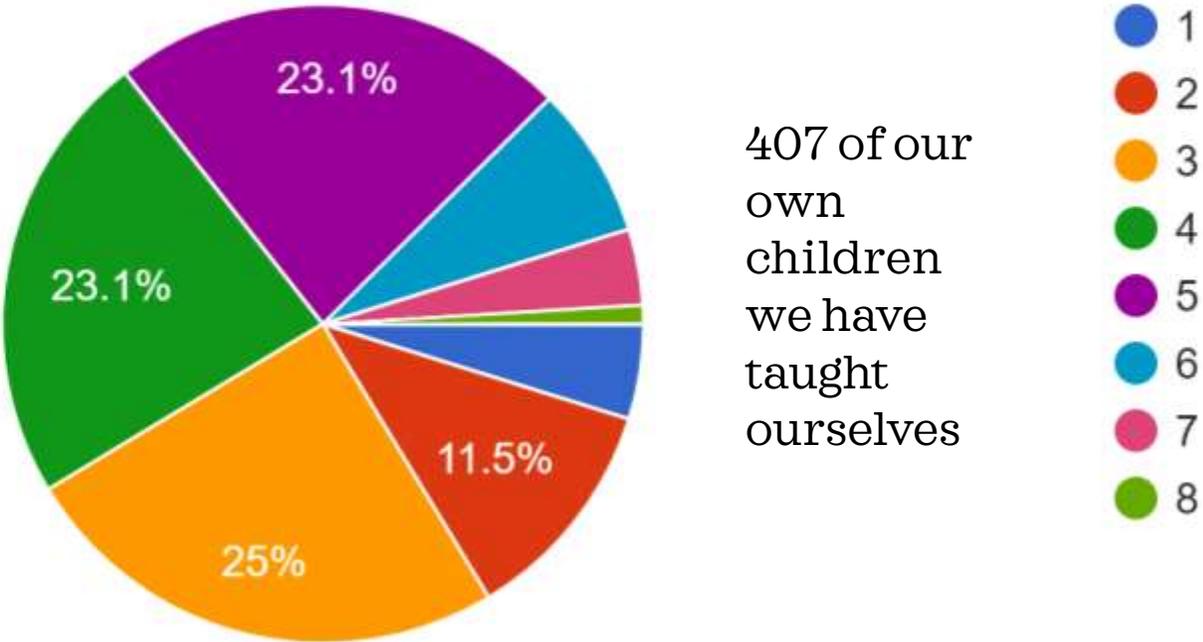
- Because it was different instruments, it was fun to compare approaches and results and have a sounding board for problems and concerns.
- We all have individual styles of teaching and learning; and its always smart to learn from another teacher - broaden your own knowledge of teaching, and possibly elevating your skills in the process.
- It's an opportunity to learn new tricks, music, and perspectives to share with other students.
- Music teachers usually helps their child practice the way they are supposed to, which made teaching the student more pleasant.
- It worked well because practice was consistent, and parents were supportive.
- It makes me more aware of how I am teaching. I feel like I have to step up my game.
- I require the parent to observe every lesson and take notes. Soon I realized that the other teachers were using many of my own ideas in their teaching. This gave me the confidence to teach without hesitation.
- Other teachers tend to be very respectful and take lessons seriously, prompt to pay and have their children practice well.
- Child responds better to teacher than parent, shows great respect and appreciation.

## **Hints to make it work**

- The other teacher must be willing to respect your methods - establish this at the beginning.
- They have to trust you! It can be challenging if the parent doesn't give you full access to the student during the lesson (constantly interrupt, make excuses, etc.) and changes the assignment out during the week which can minimize your efforts. On the other hand, it can be very beneficial when you are trusted, and the parent backs you up during lesson time and during practice.
- Be clear about your expectations. Listen to the other teacher's ideas.
- Be confident in your ability and set boundaries.
- Train the parent in what is expected since all teachers are different in their expectations.
- It works best if you share similar philosophies in teaching.
- Set up a certain length of time for lessons, such as one year or even 6 months. And then ask whether they want to stay for another year or make a change. I didn't want that feeling of "they need a different teacher but how am I going to bring the subject up".
- In my policy I require all parents read several books on teaching/raising musical children, including teacher parents.

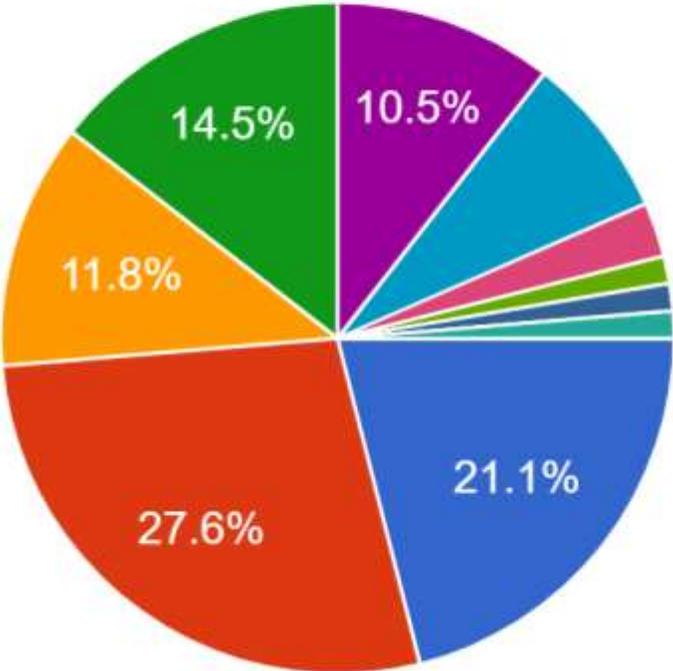
# 22. I have taught this many of my own kids:

104 responses



# 23. I have taught this many of my nieces and nephews:

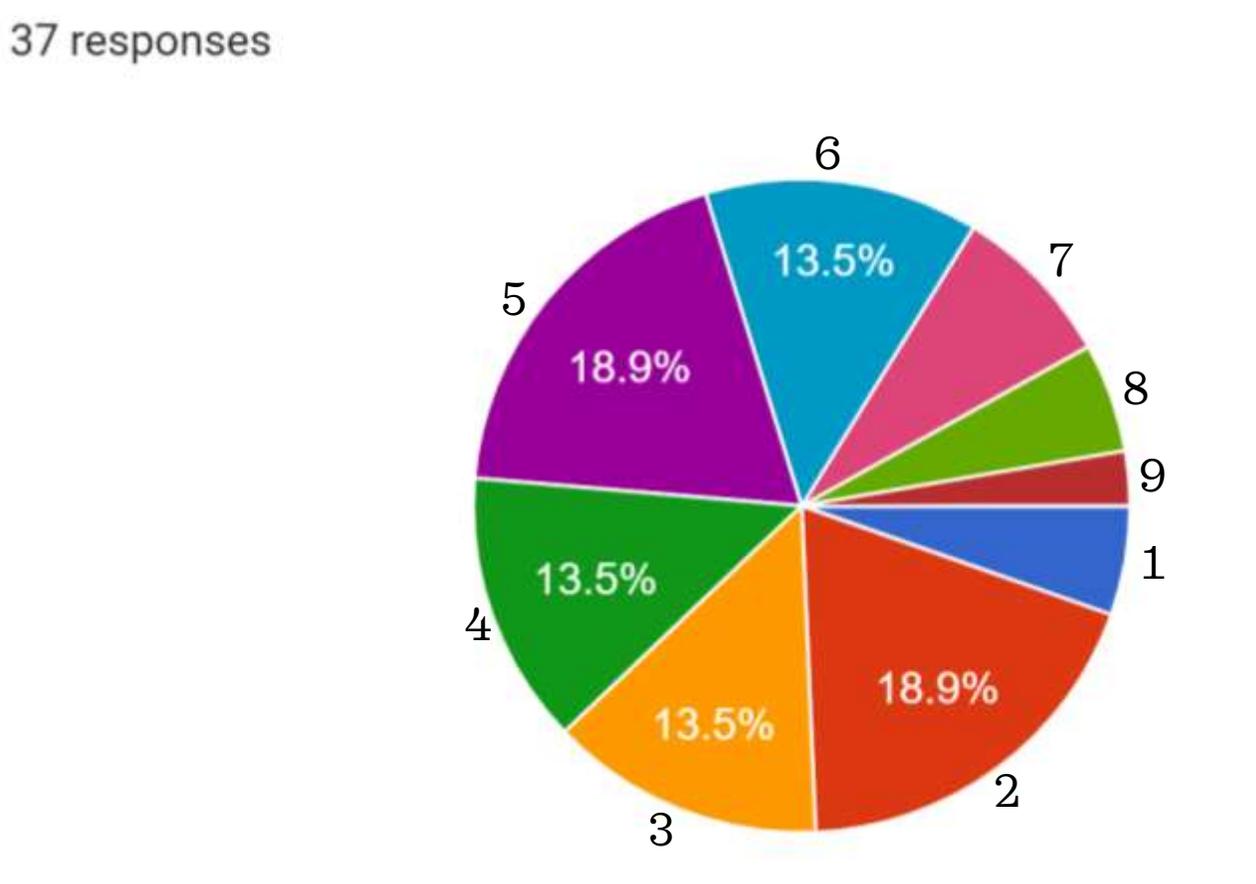
76 responses



249 Total  
nieces and  
nephews  
taught

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10
- 11
- 12
- 13
- 14
- 16
- 17

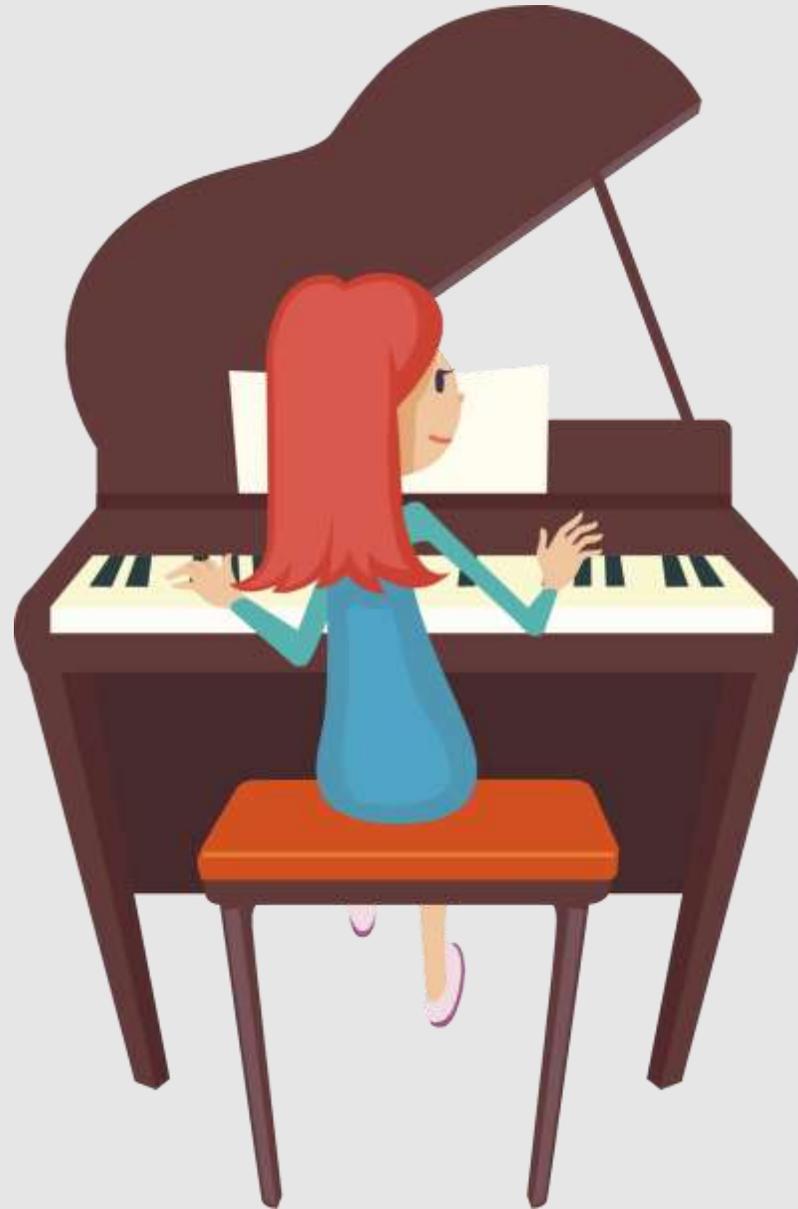
24. I have taught this many of my own grandchildren:



162 Total  
Grandchildren  
taught

*I can now  
successfully  
teach my kid,  
grandkid, niece,  
nephew, other  
family member.*

*I can  
successfully  
send them  
elsewhere for  
lessons.*



*If I choose to  
offer free,  
reduced, or  
bartered  
lessons, I can  
do it  
successfully.*