temporarily in an uncomfortable position


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Abstract

The definition of an educated person includes scepticism towards dogma, authority and ‘common sense’. The openness to investigation and fact that should also impel journalism and governance - it’s about ‘debugging’ yourself, to the extent that it’s possible, and goes with functioning in a democracy. It is unnatural - you need that in science but not only in science. - Stephen Pinker. I’m pretty sure that ‘on the back foot’ is a phrase that has its roots in cricket. As I understand it, it describes the situation you find yourself in when, as a batsman (batswoman?), you are on the receiving end of a bowling onslaught. I'm not much of a cricketer, but can imagine my composure being rattled by an especially fast delivery or two. I can also see how this phrase may have cleared the boundary of the cricket pitch and landed in other arenas of modern life where similar situations occur: interviews; public speaking; coaching and teaching. In this article I intend to explore how sometimes the kinds of metaphors that pervade our language might not be as useful as they seem, either for ourselves or those around us. I want to invite you to think about your default ways of responding to situations that occur when you are managing learning, with a view to ensuring that they are truly ‘fit for purpose’. I hope to show you that being ‘on the back foot’ can be a wonderful place to be - at least in terms of discharging our responsibilities as educators. But first let’s go back, way back in time to the Dark Ages – a time before enlightenment...

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The evidence is perfectly clear. The deceased woman was unfaithful to her husband during his absence overseas and gave birth to a child out of wedlock. Her husband seemed to behave with commendable restraint and wrote nothing to her which would have led her to take her life. The deceased appears to have been the victim of her own conscience and as the time for the return of her husband drew near she became mentally upset. She sang first of the birth of love in the hearts of a boy and a girl. And on the topmost spray of the Rose-tree there blossomed a marvellous rose, petal following petal, as song followed song. Pale was it, at first as the mist that hangs over the river—pale as the feet of the morning.

(Wide)Poetic, evaluated. I had really put my FOOT in it. 4. I didn’t know exactly how long I had for my presentation, and I knew nothing about the audience. The organisers had really thrown me in at the DEEP end. 5. After a few minutes we found we had loads at things in common. We just got ON like a house on fire. B. Put the words in the correct order to make idioms. 1. to / water / into / hot / get 2. to / opener / real / a / be / eye- 3. to / out / fish / feel / water / a / of / like. 1. Leo’s been to Nigeria many times. He knows the culture inside out. 2. We’ve told you everything about this job opportunity in Uzbekistan. Now you tell us what you think. The ball is ................over......... your court. 6. With this conference next month, we’re all ........up............... to our eyes in work at the office. Reklama. przed chwilą.