First Essay Park A Reum

We live in a global village. In the age of the globalization, we have to study second language. Especially, most of people study English because English is one of the important languages. Due to this situation, a lot of students are likely to learn English enthusiastically. English became an important factor to get a good job or enter a good school so there are a number of English books and various teaching methods in our society for language learners. However, in my opinion compared with the past, English classes in school do not change a lot. Students still learn English depending on translation and grammar. This English environment was quiet similar to mine.

When I was a student, actually I didn’t like English class because my English Classes were boring and difficult to me. In my opinion, English education from middle school to high school in Korea seems to be focused on the results of tests to prove intelligence so students are required to learn the answers that will be required for the test. Students are learned how to read English texts and translate them adequately at most of the English classes. In my case, there was no difference. I always memorized many words and their meaning and translated English texts. In addition I studied grammar and structure of the textbook and then I took the test. These ways to study English make me less interested in English. Also my English teachers only used the textbook during the class. They read the textbook and translated it. Teachers always explained something important to answer the test and delivered lecture. All classes were teacher centered classes. Of course it doesn’t mean this way to teach student is always wrong. Some subjects or classes maybe need these teaching methods to deliver information efficiently. However, I think these classes are not unsuitable for studying language because we learn language to use in real life but these classes are difficult to develop productive skills such as speaking and writing skill. Although I had learned English since I was young girl, I had difficult to communicate in English due to these reasons.

 However, when I entered University, the class differed completely from high school’s class in many ways. First, there were very various classes in university. Many professors had their own teaching styles and used a number of ways to deliver information or teach something. Most of all, I was impressed by my conversation class. He was from New Zealand so at first, I was worried about this class because I could not be confident at talking with foreigners. Even though my concern, I could enjoy his class because he was very kind and had an understanding so he made students feel at ease. In addition, he considered students’ ability and prepared various activities. Thanks to his efforts, I could learn English pleasantly and be less afraid of English. As I took the class, I realized that there are various teaching methods, and teacher could organize the class according to students. In other words, teachers consider students such as ability, age, interests and so on.

To make English class effective and interesting, I think the teacher should move away from teacher oriented class work. In other words, the class should become student centered class. Also teacher has to organize more activities to interact with other students and create various teaching material such as Power Point. Finally I believe that English education in Korea should do away with the test centered education. English has to be learned as a language that we can use in real life practically. It is necessary to develop all section of language equally: speaking, writing, reading and listening.