**Second essay assignment (Classroom Management)**

The great aim of Education is not knowledge but action. -Herbert Spencer

81th WDT Annie

One of the best ways to improve language is using it as much time as possible. Especially with the environment doesn’t use this for native language, it’d be more effective if we don’t use mother tongue while studying another one.

For this reason, many English institutions in Korea follow ‘English Only policy’. Keep this regulation could maximize the effectiveness of language teaching. The one I studied also used this method to teach the students.

However, many of us broke the rule because we were too young. Furthermore the institution didn’t have any penalty for that and it made the situation worse. I’d learned 2 teachers at that time, and their attitudes were totally different when I broke it.

The teachers’ names were ‘Bill’ and ‘Sue’. When I broke it, Bill just reason with me quietly, also he was a very patient person. In contrast Sue said “Shut up” right after I said Korean and being very upset. From this experience I realized the teacher’s quality is as important as the public rule. Particularly young person could deeply wounded by teacher, we should be careful and reject to be a terrifying teacher. However this policy can’t be kept by one person, the whole school (institution) should make some punishment rules. For example, just warning if the student violate 1 time, subtract some points for 2 times, expel or fail a student from school when they violate more than 3 times. So I will observe this regulation very strictly, although try to be more gentle when I face my students.

To increase students’ learning ability, teachers should make some ground rules to prevent their tardiness and absences. And those rules could divide with positive/negative rewards or positive/negative punishments as in Skinner’s theory. Additionally these rules could be applied differently depending on student’s age.

For instance if young child is late for the class, he/she might be too young to control herself and be punctual. In this case punish her directly is okay but calling her parents and explain the situation (positive punishment) is also helpful. Also if the student is absent, it’s better to ask him a reason than just scold, then make him study after school. Giving some candies or complements (positive rewards) to the faithful students could induce other students’ attendances.

For the adult people with tardiness we should apply more strict rules, because they’re more mature and they can conduct with their own will and rationality. Such as pay a fine if they are late for the class (negative reward), can’t attend the whole class or fail the course if they are absent more than 3 times. These kinds of penalties are definitely effective, and if someone can’t attend the class for some unavoidable reasons, she must tell the teacher beforehand. (only 1 time)

Unfortunately there was no one who made this kind of rules when I studied. Teacher’s attention is essential to prevent student’s tardiness and absences. But most of my teachers’ attitudes were closer to indifference. So not to be an unqualified teacher, I will do some personal counseling to students while keeping the rules.

There are 2 things teacher should keep in mind for helping students prepare for activities (lesson plans, homework, assignments).

First, give clear instruction. This will help the students understanding about the concept, by extension, helpful to prepare their homework or assignment. To give clearer instructions teacher should deliver essential information with simple sentences, monitor and cover her lacking parts. In addition, don’t focus on lecture or explain, try to demonstrate with various kinds of instruments – students will refer that to prepare their own assignments.

Second, treat all students with open mind. Each student has different personality, language level and learning skills although they are in the same class. If shy person have to present in class, teacher should encourage him to do it easily while he prepare that. Teacher should wait with patience and help steadily to slow learners, and try to accept any kind of student’s opinion. Many complements and invigorations will raise their confidence.

In fact a lot of Korean teachers tend to give compliments only to the top student. In my experience most of them did like that, it enlarged gap between top student and inferior student. On the other hand, the professors in my graduated school respect student’s opinion very much and it brought many creative ideas.

Accordingly, I will try to make high quality instruction for students’ comprehension, respect their diversity and be liberal with my praise.

(750 words)