[85th WDT NICKY]-2013.Feb.13

**My Faith** Submitted by: Nicky

I have learned English in different countries which are Australia and the Philippines. Although I was not an expert, I would like to say that I achieved my goal. But actually I did not enter any school or institute to study English in Australia. I worked there for two years (October,2010~October,2012) with my working holiday visa. In the Philippines, I entered in a private English school for three months to improve my English skills (November,2012~January,2013). Although I just worked for two years, the life in Australia influenced my English communication skills. But sometimes the environment limited the time using English because there were many Korean people around me. So I could not spend my time to study English, but as I loved to mingle with foreigners, I could communicate well with confidence using English.

When I was in the Philippines, teachers from the school helped me a lot and I saw myself adapting well speaking English. Every weekday, I spend my time with teachers learning English. Sometimes a teacher taught me individually, and I also had a time studying by group. I had a grammar lesson, speaking lesson and reading lesson. I enjoyed free talking with native teachers and students. I thought I could not do well but my experiences in Australia affected me in positive ways.

Now, I would like to tell about a teacher who really inspired me. There were eight teachers at school. They were all kind and had a passion in their teachings. Among them, I cannot forget my teacher Leonise who was my home room teacher. Although she was the youngest teacher at school, she was most enthusiastic teacher and she always encouraged me with her love. When I had a hard time during my studies, she always approached to me and tried her best. So I could stand well.

When I am thinking of teacher Leonise, another teacher, Ms.Kim comes up to my mind. She was my advisory teacher when I was third year of high school. She took care of her students as her real child. I had a hard time with English but she encouraged me not to give up. She always checked my plans and she provided me a vocabulary test every morning. Because of her, I started to approach easily to English words and it was my first time to enjoy my studies. Although my score was not so high, I could see my score getting better than before. Ms.Kim was busy enough to take care of other students and I knew that she could not always observe me. But she never put away me and she gave many opportunities to me to explore more. And it was the time that I was interested about my abilities and I found out that there is a possibility that I also can do as others.

Teacher Kim and teacher Leonise are my favorite teachers that I cannot forget. They were good teachers and they are still good teachers. Carl Rogers stated about three kinds of teacher. There are the explainer, the involver, and enabler. Depend on my opinion I think my two favorite teachers are involvers. According to Carl Rogers, he said that involver has the quality of the explainer and in addition, involver tries to involve the students actively and puts a great deal of effort into finding appropriate activities. Therefore, as my teachers always tried to involve students in all activities, I would like to say that they are involvers. They did not just stop their lesson by explaining or giving a definition of the subject. They provided an activity which can assess student’s comprehension and their abilities. These kinds of activities helped me to participate and digest the lesson easily. I really loved their lessons and it made me more actively in my studies.

I also think a good teacher should be an involver but also an explainer and enabler. In addition, I think all teachers must possess passion, patience, and inspiration. Because without passion, how could a teacher enjoy his/her teaching? Also, without patience, how could a teacher wait for a student who is a slow learner? Lastly, without inspiration, how could a teacher motivate students? These questions are a basic question but I think these are very important.

This story above motivated me to become a teacher. I had no interest in English before. I thought English is not my subject. But based on my experiences, English is the only thing that gives me energy and I can show my confidence. That is why I decided myself to explore more about English, so now I am here to become a teacher.

Malcom Knowles mentioned about the theory of Andragogy. It is about an education of teaching adults. He put a difference between children and adult. He said that the motivation and the experience are different between them. It means adults know exactly what they are doing. They know where to go and what to do. They decide their own plans and willing to do. This means that to be a teacher to teach adult which I prefer to be, I should understand each student and respect their personality not to discriminate them.

I know that there are many people who want to study English and want to enhance their English communication skills. Based on my experience, I think the environment is important. When I was a high school student, I just memorized the structure and grammar to study English. And I thought this way was helpful. But it was just for my examination at school. It increased my score but after the examination, I forgot everything. And I realized that it was not a good way of studying. And when I went abroad, I saw myself not having difficulties in communicating with foreigners. Because I was exposed to the environment which I could use English all the time. So I think the environment is very important when we learn second language especially English.