**For the better English learning environment in Korea**

 **Julia**

‘Rome was not built in a day’

 So, English learning environment in Korea is the same.

In Korea, there are lots and lots of private institutes and programs for learning English

and they all insists that their programs are much more efficient and perfect for speaking,

writing, reading and listening than any others. We are living in a flood of learning

materials and spaces for English.

Also, we have one more problem between private education and public one.

day by day as the private education fee is getting more and more, Korean government tries to cut down on the private education fee for parents .

I think that the Public education must be in the center of the English World in Korea.

It’s because school is a place that teachers could teach most students English without any expensive education fee or discrimination.

it would be very great if our students can have a good command in English with foreigners after graduating schools without any help of private education.

So, to make them command English fluently, what is needed in Korean English classroom?

I think that the role and capability of English teachers’ are the most important of all.

Here is my real story about some teachers of my school life.

When I was a second grader at BUIL middle school student in 1995, I met some English teachers.

They were English teachers, who did not correct pronunciation and intonation so that I couldn’t learn correct intonation and pronunciation of native speakers.

I could always find some differences of the ones between my English teachers and actors in Hollywood movies I saw.

I felt that those were not even similar to native speakers’ nevertheless I had to follow after their all. In addition, I could recall there was one more English teacher speaking dialect with a Pusan accent.

Whenever she told or read us something in English with that ridiculous Pusan accent, we were not able to concentrate on her teaching about grammar or reading.

But I think it was not common to meet a English teacher who commanded fluently like native speakers in old days.

Even our English lessons had to focus on just grammar, reading and listening.

Every time we had midterm or final test, most of the problems were about grammatical errors and reading comprehension.

when I got older and graduated, I couldn’t speak English with foreigners even though I had studied English for about 6 years.

As a result, I think the role of English teachers in my middle school was not helpful for me to speak in English at that time.

Only what they could give me was just knowledge of grammar and reading.

But as I really wanted to speak English fluently with foreigners, I didn’t give up studying it for better English. One day I realized that my pronunciation and accent were very different and awkward comparing with Americans.

So I listened to some CDs and watched movies in English so that I could improve my English gradually. I’m sure there are much better English teachers who command great English like native speakers these days than when I was young.

So I wish that the students in school can have many chances to speak and write with native speakers who had lived in various countries speaking English as first language and Korean teachers who can make them improve and rectify their English. With the help of Korean teacher who can have fluent English skill and correct their essay or speaking, they could have excellent English skill after graduating high school.

Although I couldn’t have enough chances to have free talking or debate in English, I wish that all students nowadays can have more opportunities to show and improve their ability.

Lastly, some linguists say that we need to be exposed more than 10,000 hours to acquire a foreign language.

To make this come true, teachers ought to make a variety of and many supplementary classes to help the students to have enough English classes and to practice their English skill. Then our students’ fluent command of English would be better than before.

I believe that Koreans’ English would be even better in the future with the effort of the teachers in public school and the best program of English would be found in public school someday. Until the dreams will come true, Go Korea!!