**My good friends for me to show the world**

“ You don't live in a world all alone. Your brothers are here too. Albert Schweitzer (1875-1965) “ I agree this, I can’t do by myself all the time.

I was interested in English when I was child at school but I knew something that there are many things in the world and I tried to find something. I realized that I needed to speak English with friends from the other countries. I stared to study English since 1994, when I was freshman at the University.

I tried studying at Hakwon, language school, some English program, etc but I was getting slowly.

I have one of my best Korean friends who can speak English well and he has many foreign friends, he accomplished a lot in English. It gave me a lot of chances to meet his foreign friends who were from India, America, Africa, Myanmar, etc. At the time I changed a lot to see the world and loved traveling to around the world. I didn’t have enough money to go as a student who has to studied without jobs but I got some tutoring lessons for elementary and middle school students. It made enough money for me to travel. Finally, I got the chances to go outside. I enjoyed a lot to see some awesome sights and people. But I didn’t get good grades in the University, I was one of poor students who didn’t study a lot. After graduating I was looking for some jobs to live, my experience was so good to get a Job as an English teacher. So I have had jobs to teach English since 2003. My students were elementary students who couldn’t speak English well, they used just below 500 words in my class. I prepared them to teach what they need. It was easy for me.

However, my life was changed a lot with Mr. Swanson who was from America, he was one of my church members at Haven International Baptist Church. He suggested to work with his ministry, at first, I didn’t because I didn’t have enough abilities to teach American kids who can could English better than me. The school was Kunsan Christian International School in Gunsan City, CheonBuk Province, I used to work from December 2007 ~ February 2012. The first time I started as a superviser who controled and helped students in the library. And then I was getting more and more duties to do at school. Finally, I had Korean classes for 10th graders as a foreign language they’re not many just 3 students who wanted to study Korean.

I realized that I do not speak English very well and disappointed a lot by myself when I tried to teach the Korean Class with American Students. One of my big troubles is the communication of student’s language what they used slang words which I never understood. I think one of them didn’t respect me and didn’t understand the language very well. He had many questions, but I didn’t answer clearly. I was sorry that I didn’t have enough knowledge for the students.

Finally, I tried to talk with Mr. Swanson who was a principal at school to stop teaching, but he encouraged a lot for me. “Don't worry, we all make mistakes.” he said, “you’re a good Korean teacher for students, you can do and find the way how to do in your class.” And then I did do best by myself for my students, one year later I got it how to do and what to do to teach Korean for American Kids.

It was really good to study English for me with American teachers and kids, I enjoyed a lot with teachers when we have some parties and picnics. It was good experiences in my life with American teachers as good friends.

2 years later, Mr Swanson made a new school in China, he went and new principal came to school where I worked. Mr Swanson’s teacher type was an involver who knows the subject matter, employs a variety of techniques including explanation, he knew how to teach why he was a teacher in America long time ago, but these day many things are changed even teacher’s attitude.

The second principal, Mr Erickson, his teacher type was an enabler which shares control with or even gives control to students almost completely and maybe barely ‘visible’ in the classroom. He helped make autonomous possible.

Mr Erickson was an effective teacher which loved to teach, demonstrated a caring attitude and a good communicator. He challenged his students and tried to understand the content that he teached and knew how to explain that content in a manner that his students understand. So he had effective teaching qualities before he left, I know what he did but he did stay long time because of our school system that has too busy.

His core characteristics are effective, friendly, honest, courageous, creative and encouraging to others.   
  
Malcolm S. Knowles said that “My strength lies in creating opportunities for helping individuals become more proficient practitioners.” I could learned his theory form my principals and teachers.

Some of teachers had teacher-center and traditional classes but most of them had student-center and modern classes

Finally, I know how to learn and why have to learn English with friends who are principals and American teachers, I have realized what good teachers and bad teachers for students. Really it was awesome learning English from them when we had discussions for our kids to study. And my mistakes made me more to be experienced as a teacher, I hope to be a teacher who can change the student’s hearts to be interested in English. So Times Media TESOL Program encourages me to correct my errors or mistakes and challenge as a English Teacher. I will do best for my dream what can teach English for poor students who need my help.