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**<A teacher who affects student’s life in a positive way>**

When I was a middle school student, I think, learning English excited me, because it was a different and new language to me at that time. However, in the high school, that language which made me feel excited became bored, stressful, and nothing fun. I think it might be because I didn’t meet a good teacher and Korean Education System was not that advanced. Through my experience I realized that it is really important for students to meet a good teacher in their life. Even it influences their life a lot in a positive way or negative way.

During my school years, most of my English classes were traditional teaching style, in other words, Chalk & Talk / Mug & Jug, lecture based, focused on receptive skills, and teacher-centered classrooms. And most of my English teachers were explainers. I just listened and took notes, and memorized. When I was working for shipping company, sometimes I had to send an e-mail to the overseas branches, of course, in English. However it was really hard and took long time for me to make an e-mail in English, even I couldn’t speak English at all. I think it might be an outcome of Korean education system.

One day, I met a foreign couple, John and Pat, in the meeting. From that moment my whole life became changed totally. They came from America for the missionary work. I took John’s English class. And I was pressed into situation that I had to care for their practical needs while they live in Korea. In his class, I think, he was an involver and an enabler. He always prepared some materials for the class. His teaching style was asking questions, never explained grammar. And he divided us into group to discuss, and then each one had to present an assignment given in the previous class in front of classmates. After reviewing it, he marked where we need to correct, but didn’t give us answers, elicited answers from us. I just could figure it out. However, an impact of my learning English occurred by having a lot of time with them to meet their practical needs. Surely I made many mistakes in communicating with them. They never tried to correct me, but always encouraged me. They really listened to me and other students, were patient, had a good sense of humor, and empathized with my problems. I had a good relationship with them. For the first time, I thought that I really want to be exactly same with them. They were surely effective teachers to me. They motivated me to be a good teacher.

I really want to be a teacher who affects student’s life in a positive way. I think that is a good teacher. A good English teacher, of course, should not only have the expert knowledge of English, but also experience various kinds of teaching methods. In addition, A good teacher is the one who can control students completely, elicits autonomous learning motivation from students, gives students many chances to participate in, and can create a good atmosphere and good rapport in class. After this TESOL course I hope I would be such a teacher.