KN-130WD Sarah

‘My Life As a TESOL Certified English Communication Facilitator’

I even do not remember when I began this TESOL class 130. Time goes fly and now I am here to be a TESOL certified teacher. It was always wonderful and thoughtful time which is given to me. I am very proud of myself and from now on I am going to remind what I have gained from California State University at Long Beach Kangnam TESOL class 130.

I still clearly remember the first day I entered the classroom. I did not know who they were sitting in front of me. Nervousness, expectations and at the same time impatient mood surrounded me. Everything made me an anxious state of mind at first. But actually the first meeting was impressive. It has been a long time that I speak in English so I was ready to enjoy all of journey and truly the every moment I spent was great.

I was grown up as a typical Korean and I learned English like mathematics. I had to memorize thousand words and more and more until I am able to read and write sentences. Solving English reading questions were always difficult and it was heavy burden for me. English was not a language that time. It was just one of school subjects. I had to learn it to take a university entrance exam and only the result was the most important thing in English. Of course I did not know how to communicate with people and even I was not interested in it. How wired I am! I have learned English at least for 12 years but I am not able to speak out at all. However, now I know why I learn English and how people should learn English.

I think most Korean start learning English since 8 years old. It is very common that the parents force kids to study English in different. I was shocked when Dr.Frank said that we, native speakers, never learn English like Korea. We just learn English like how Korean learns Korean naturally. So when I begin TESOL class every activity was amazing. I gained a lot but one thing I remember as the most important factor for learning English was ‘Have you enjoyed learning?’ There was no English teacher I have met who asked me to “Did you enjoy the class today?” English learning must be fun because it is language to communicate with people we meet.

I also had several teaching experiences but I never considered student’s feeling and emotion. What I know was how I teach students well and what the student’s attitude should be. Therefore, Lead-In part in learning process was sort of unfamiliar factor but after I experience it I realized how this little part is important. Many different approaches from teacher occurs during class activity but without student’s interesting maybe their ability to participate in class will decrease and I think it is teacher’s fault. Interesting Lead-In makes students being active and in this situation they learn a lot. I reminded myself that do not forget to give or share my experience because sharing teacher’s story highly affects to the students. Another thing I have gained from TESOL class was that students do or follow what the teacher does, teacher is the best effective person in the class, never asks students whatever the teacher does not want to do and always teach students in student side. Those things are the most memorable factors among TESOL theories.

I realized that learning English language could be interesting and I want other novice to be taught by adapting this nice theories so they will learn English easier than school and also they will not feel like what I felt when I learn English. If the students can learn English easily, there will be no person who is afraid of meeting foreign friends. There should be proper learning system like not only learning writing, grammar and reading but also speaking.

Including my university education, it is first time that I apparently enjoyed the class in my life. I actually thought TESOL is just kind of Korean style teaching skills but it was not. All kinds of theories were new and special teaching way of education. Maybe I also learn Korean like this kind of route but by following Korean style learning the second language is felt always hard. I am so happy that I have acquired lots of skills and excited to teach students as soon as possible. I do not think that this TESOL certification shows that we can teach students in English as well as we are prepared to love students and teach them with love hands.

I think I became more professional teacher and now finally well prepared than before. I will never stop learning English and keep reminding in mind what I have gained from TESOL class and adapt all teaching skills in my future class. I certainly appreciate that I could have this big chance to take this TESOL program. As I mentioned before, the reason I chose this course among many kind of TESOL class was the micro-teaching. I have not received any comments or evaluation from my teaching. That is why I really wanted to know what my strengths are and also weakness are. Good things always keep in mind and bad things wanted to change up. It was very shy that I become a teacher in front of my peer in the class. I used to say that my English is not good so I am shy to speak in front of people but now I have more confidence and naturally can speak anywhere.

Thank for all your efforts that taught us and I will never forget all the moments I spent to this TESOL course and of course everything I have learned beneficial knowledges and skills for teaching English. I little bit sad that I finish this enjoyable class and I will miss your laughing, energy and powerful voice Frank. Once again thanks for reading my Essay for the first and the last time.