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**My Best English Teacher**

Learning English as a second language in Korea, I have had lots of English teacher ever since I started to learn English. The best teacher I have had was Sasha. I met her when I was very young, at the age of maybe 10. I used to go to English Academy near my house and she was the main English teacher there. So she taught me English. At that time, my English level was a “False Beginner”, who can ask and respond to basic learned phrases spoken slowly and repeated often. My English improved a lot during those periods I learned English from her. Sasha truly was a best teacher to me regarding the fact that she was a modern style teacher, enabler and had effective teaching.

Sasha certainly was a modern style teacher. She used a lot of modern teaching style.

Firstly, her class was all about student-centered. She would prepare a list of paper written with lots of questions. Then, made her students read all those out loud together and write the answers. She also gave us all of the corrections for that. After recognizing Q&As, she made us to sit in a circle and let us stand and run to ask every questions to classmates. Once one was asked, has to answer properly using the paper. This activity had so called, integrated skill approach which includes reading, writing, listening and speaking skills, plus, more participation definitely needed. Moreover, I remember she used a lot of Disney movie for her class. We would do shadowing lines from the movies with the partners she has chosen for us. Once in a year, she opens a big party in our academy, dressing up like a character we like and do the exact same act form the movie. It was a really fun party organized by her, because she also invited our parents and other friends.

She was an enabler. I believe good teachers have to know how to motivate their students, especially if it is related to language area, Sasha did motivate every students to participate more in her class. Whenever we did not know the meaning of the word or the appropriate answer for the given question, she did not just give us the right explanation of it. She waited for us to think about it and give her our own opinions. This means, she allowed her students to create their own ideas. She always provided a low-anxiety environment for teaching, so we were always raising our hands to speak out even though our guess was not right. Moreover, one of the strongest learner mode was tactile-kinesthetic since we were all young. So she prepared a lot of activities related to use our physical movement. We were always standing up, drawing, talking and even running in her class. Also, I guess the fact that I am writing a paper about her being a best teacher even after all those years sincerely proves she made a huge positive impact.

Lastly, Sasha was an effective teacher. Frankly speaking, I do not exactly remember every episodes or any other precise moments with her but I do think she made me get more interest in English by complimenting and encouraging me. Her most-used response to us was “Great!”, “Perfect!” She was a very easy-going person whom students can easily approach. So I remember I would always go to the academy with the snacks from my house and bring those to her even I did not have a class. She also had a strong leadership so every students including me followed her a lot. Even though we were all kids not adults, she always had this kind of respect and became a good friend to us all. But most importantly, she treated us with her authenticity. She really wanted us to have more interest in English, and helped us a lot in every situation to improve our English.

Looking back at these memories, I realized how grateful it is to have a chance meeting an English teacher like Sasha. My English got improved so much but most importantly, I got to have interests keeping me move forward in learning English. She truly was a modern, enabler and effective teacher. For me, English was just a subject like math or science. So it was very boring to me because I used to only memorize vocabs and learn grammar. Her enjoyable activities, environments and passion definitely influenced students to be more engaged in English. One day, I would like to become a teacher like Sasha. And it will be an honor for me if one of my students remember me as a best teacher, just like I did with Sasha.