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 January15, 2019

 Word : 766

 **My Best English Teacher**

My best teacher was an English teacher. His name was Yeon Tae Heum. He taught at Hakers Academy in Gangnam. He is a popular teacher there. When I started to study English, I studied at Cheonho near my home. At the moment there were three or four English academies in Cheonho. I signed up at one place. The reason I chose there was it was the closest place to my home. When I first learned I was satisfied the classes but I wanted to study harder after two years. Because they usually used textbooks and tapes in classes. I already knew Gangnam is the best place to learn English so I signed up his class. I was a bit surprised because it was really different style class and I felt that he was a teacher who was really trying to help his students learn English. I’ve never met a teacher like him before.

Mr.Yeon was a modern style teacher. For example, He always tried to talk with students and did a survey once a month about the class. He also used American TV shows and news to improve speaking and dictation. These days it’s a common way but it used to be rare. I think my listening skills have improved a lot at this time because he also made a study group after class so I could practice speaking and listening more. It really helped me a lot. Sometimes he was a traditional teacher when he took the test once a week and he gave a gift after seeing the results of the month. Test was a traditional style but gifts seemed to modern style because it made students self-motivation. Come to think of it, he taught students in many ways.

I think Mr.Yeon was an explainer and involver because the academy was a huge class. There were between 30 and 40 students so he needed a mike for class. He made his own textbooks every month so he used it for 50minutes. The book was composed of business English, news BBC or CNN, American TV shows and storytelling. And he showed us related videos. He also taught us grammars properly. The class for 50minutes passed really fast. He wanted to teach a lot of things in his time so he gave some home works. It was not easy to do it while working but he knew exactly how to improve English. He was not an enabler because of classroom characteristics but I think he is a teacher who can teach all styles.

Mr.Yeon was an effective teacher. He had empathy, authenticity, and respect in teaching. He always tried to understand and get close to the students. When students looked like the class was difficult or bored, he tried to change the class atmosphere. There were various students, office workers, students, preparing to study abroad or preparing for exams. If they have questions about their problems, he always counseled kindly. When I was taking his class, there was an incident where I felt that he was really thinking about the students. As I mentioned earlier, there were many different students in the classroom. I knew two students who prepared for exams. They studied all day from his class at 7 in the morning and studied for a long time. One day, Mr.Yeon bought them lunch and cheered them up because he knew they had to save money. When I heard about it from them, I was touching. Even though there were so many students he couldn’t do that for everyone. Since then, I had become more and more a fan of him.

When I took his class, I think my English was the best in my life. It was hard for me but he made me study hard and made me enjoy English. At the time I just thought he was an amazing teacher because I’ve never seen that kind of teaching style. But I know now after TESOL 1 module. He was a modern style teacher, explainer, involver and an effective teacher. And I learned that these things are how much effect on students. I’ve taken the TESOL course only for a week but I felt a lot. I will think a lot about how to become a good teacher from now on. If I become an English teacher in the future, I want to be such a passionate teacher like him. I really appreciate Mr.Yeon who allowed me to study English hard. If I have time, I’d like to take his class again.