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My ESL Teaching Beliefs

I have a good experience of learning English in the U.K for last 2 years. Before

going there, I did not have enough time to prepare for studying. Even though I

used to work at nurseries as an English teacher, I just could use a basic sentence

at that time. That was why I started in an intermediate class. One of teachers I

had met who impressed me is named Julie. She introduced a new grammar point

in the beginning of lesson. After then, we practicing it with a partner or

a group. We were also doing matching the sentences, filling the missing words,

asking the questions and answering them. I could not remember all activities but

I can say that was a great time for me. All of students graduated at

universities. So our grammar was not bad. But we could not speak in English fluently and accurately. Accordingly, sometimes we had a problem with

communication in group work. We knew well about topics what were given us

but could not explain in English as much as we have known. In that case, we

asked Julie, She came to us and was listening carefully with patience. Although

we used broken English, She had never interrupted, and just repeating and

naturally fixing up the sentence when we were wrong. As her manner like that, we

felt comfortable when we were talking with her. I think it made us encourage

speaking out more. In the end of the class, I was happy because of organizing

grammar in head and improving speaking. It was very helpful for

learning English in the next level.

I think she was an involver. Because she knew the subject matter and was familiar

with teaching methodology. She was trying to involve the students actively and

put a great deal of effort into finding appropriate and interesting activities that

would do this, while still retaining clear control over the classroom and what

happened in it.

When I was in upper-intermediate and advanced classes, I met new teachers

who had a little of different style compare to Julie. They did not explain the

grammar any more. They just gave a topic or we practiced sharing new

expressions and vocabularies what we have known involved the topics. They did

not control all materials and subjects what we had to discuss. They led us to

enable ourselves through sharing our experience and knowledge. That is why I

think that they were enablers. They might become a ‘guide’ or a ‘counselor’ or a

‘resource of information when needed’. They knew about the subject matter and

about methodology, but also had an awareness of how individuals and groups

were thinking and feeling within their class. They actively responded to this in

there planning and methods and in building effective working relationships and

a good classroom atmosphere.

We could not say which teaching style is the best. According to my experience,

it depends on the levels. Therefore, that is important what your level is and

which teaching style is appropriate for you before start learning a second

language.