ESSAY #2

                                                                          By Olivia (Hong, Hyun Sin)

I've never studied abroad so I don't know well about how the students who are studying in English speaking countries learn English. All I know is how I've learned English and how I make a plan as a future English teacher with my experiences. Actually, it hasn't been long time since I started to use English. My life had nothing to do with English. My family moved to Gyeonggido province from Seoul 3 years ago. I lived my whole life in Seoul until then. My husband's laboratory is near Osan so I moved here reluctantly. Nobody knew me and nobody talked to me here. I didn't imagine there was anyone here who could be my friend. I felt alienated and I was getting bored. I needed to do something to make my life better. One day, I decided to learn English in an academy in my neighborhood. I just wanted to cheer myself up. It was positive step for me.  Learning English was a creative outlet to express myself.

My English teacher was great. He was totally different from my school English teachers in the past. He led all students to concentrate on what he said and did. He already knew how to have everybody's attention in his classroom. He was always friendly and humorous. We shared many information about how to raise children, how to enjoy our lives, how to be a good spouse and so on. It was because adult learners have their own life and many experiences. In retrospect, he knew how to utilize these resources in class. The atmosphere of our classroom was always joyful and lively. It was caused by his effort that he extracted idea and response from students. He used various methods for teaching English. At the beginning of the class, He used to give us several words to make sentences, and we used to discuss with that words. That was fun. We had to dialog with each other naturally as possible as we could. After we finished that dialog, he gave us corrections. Plus, we used to do role-playing about various situations. Even though we made many grammatical errors, it was a good teaching technique for all students to participate in his class.

He was not only a teacher but also a good friend and an adviser. My role model is him. I want to be like him if I teach English. I hope that all my students will love English and I really hope that all of them will smile whenever they remember me because I will make them enjoy English.