**Aim of My ESL Teaching**

“Seeing much, suffering much, and studying much are the three pillars of learning“

- Benjamin Disraeli

I learned English for the first time in my life when I entered the Duksung Girls’ Middle School in 1993. But English class was not good. Teacher just wrote down grammar rules on the board and then read a book, translated it in Korean. But it was too difficult to understand, I could not understand what teacher said. But fortunately I met a new teacher when I entered the Hyehwa Girls’ High School in 1996. She made us sit in groups, make English name, and do activities. It was new to me and really fun. I wished to learn English with her for the rest of high school, but it was one and only experience in my whole schooldays. And I was 15, second grade of the middle school, teacher gave something special. Her class was totally not good, but she taught some pop songs at the end of the semester. It was the first time I heard pop songs.

During English class of my schooldays I did not concentrate on teacher’s class. I just studied by myself, and gave up learning from teachers. They were typical explainers. Their class was boring and hard to catch up. Students sat in rows, took notes, just listened to teacher’s explaining. In the class there was only teacher’s one sided lesson but no participation of students. Students were not involved at all, only teacher existed in the class. Students were too passive; we had no chance to speak English so it was strange to speak freely. There were no visuals to help the students understanding easily. We have learned English as a preparation for the exam not a communication even though it is an essential of language. Teachers ignored natural language development that is we learned reading and grammar before learning speaking. Even though it was impossible we can speak or write perfectly from the beginning, but teachers were strict.

On the other hand, my high school teacher’s class was fun. I looked forward her class and concentrated on. She made us move and speak English with friends and teacher. She was an involver. We had an English name so we felt more comfortable speaking English. And it was natural to speak English and there were no rebukes. We did many activities in groups or personally, we got some goods if we did good job. It made us compete one another, and concentrate on the class. And it was a good motivation. And my middle school teacher, when I second grade, used visual tools. She played an audiotape, we filled in the blanks, she told us the meaning, and we sang a song. It was quite a good memory; even today I remember that song. It was a <Song> by Carpenters. Because of that good memory I usually taught songs to my students.

I taught English last year for eight month. I did not like that academy because my boss’s only concern was pushing the students. I can’t understand why children have to take a class in academy and study so much time. They are only elementary school students!! It was too distressful to follow boss’s direction. I always have to force students to study hard, even though I knew it is too difficult and too much to them. Children complained all the time, “Why do I have to learn English? I am not going to USA. So, why?“ I had no words to say them. When I said this in my TESOL interview, the interviewer said “You need this”.

I have both good and bad experiences of learning English and have some experiences as a teacher. I believe there is no need to learn English so hard or difficult. Moreover the worst thing is Korean’s communication ability is not good in spite of their hardworking. I think there is more effective and easy way to learn English. I want to learn that skills to teach students enjoy learning English. And not just studying but speaking. I like learning something so I have some good teachers. They are my supporters, always encouraging me, giving some advices and scolding, and trusting me. Every time I met those teachers I have grown up one more step. So I want to be a teacher who gives a motivation and vision as well as good lecture; inspires the students, and understands their mind.