As a teacher …

Kang, Jeong-a(Term 67)

My father was an Elementary School teacher who has influenced me a lot in my life as a teacher and my father. I often saw that he was studying and preparing for his classes at home even during vacation times. I have two elder brothers. During our school days, he was a strict great teacher and father to us all. He was also an artist and a bank of creative ideas which opened our minds and abilities to imaginary and artistic worlds. I do respect my father and I am sure that I look after my father in many ways as a teacher. I feel a great passion when I prepare for classes and teach my students, especially elementary pupils.

Actually English and Korean were my weak points in achievement at school. It means that I am not a linguistic person. Ironically I majored in English Education. But now I think that my weak point is the strong point as a teacher for I know well what specific problems Korean students have in learning English and what they need to do and learn in class. Also, I am good at making teaching materials. However, in the aspect of language teaching skills and English itself, I need to improve myself a lot more. So I hope that I will gain theory-and-real-teaching-skill balanced experiences through English from this course.

As a teacher who have learned and studied English only in Korea, I have a limitation in teaching English which is a foreign language to me. In this point of view, it is an innovative investment that the educational offices have placed native teachers at schools. This has influenced students’ attitudes to foreigners and other cultures positively I think. However, there have been a lot of problems caused by them at working places, which Korean teachers have been taking care of. From now on the government should turn the flow of the investment from native teachers toward schools. Also good native teachers can be placed in English camp and in teachers’ training programs.