Sarah (Korean name : Sejin Lee)

These days, the education of universities has changed. Based on the traditional method, professors make class actively with games, presentation, play and so on. They make students participate on their class voluntarily. And also I took a class that professor makes students break away from their fear of English. I’m going to write about the class that I experienced below.

In this class students’ level were between pre-intermediate and intermediate. They could virtually understand what professor said and speak with basic sentences and some words. And most students were intrapersonal and others are interpersonal characteristics. They hadn’t got courage of saying English and they were afraid of being wrong. When teacher asked something, only 2 or 3 people are answered after some hesitation. At first a teacher, named Chung, taught students with traditional method – just wrote some knowledge on the board. Nobody answered and hadn’t got any interest in English. So he changed style of teaching into modern style. He made students push their chairs and desk to the back and play game using English. If someone won the game or played game actively, he gave him/her a bonus point. Making some groups, he gave them a topic each and each team gave a presentation on each topic in the class. They became one-day teachers. With the prepared presentation, they could get courage and also deep knowledge because they prepared information about the topic they took on. When they finished, other students who are listened it commented that something was good and something was bad. So students could participate deeply and also be centered in the class. Chung used various materials and activities while teaching to make students take an interested in English. And he tried to communicate with each student. He made students communicate with other students using English. To break away a fear of speaking English, he sit in front of students and make them ask any questions with Korean. He was a foreigner and he cannot speak Korean less than students do English. He wanted to give them fellowship that using second language and say ‘Speak in English is hard but you should speak it with confidence. Nobody laughs at you when you are wrong.’ He always changed his teaching style - explainer, involver, and enabler. When teaching grammar, he wrote some sentences and explained English grammar. Sometimes making speaking competition with groups, he made them understand and notice rules of speaking and listening. Being a enabler, he gave each team a chance to be one-day teachers and they could lead the class. When the class ended, all students’ level of English was improved and they broke their fear of speaking English.

Based on my experience, in the future I want to be a multiple teacher. Sometimes I will use traditional method and sometimes I will teach students with various activities. I want to give students courage of speaking second language. Most Koreans are good at English but they have not enough courage to speak, because they have a fear of being wrong and other many reasons. So I will communicate each learner to get his/her problems quickly and change teaching style suitably. Chung tried to break students’ fear with various activities and teaching style. Through his teaching, I always change my teaching style judging the situation. In order to do like this, I should not only know the subject very well but also be aware of how students are thinking and feeling.