**Essay 01**

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 **이 관 희**

**By other’s doing wise men correct their own.**

**-Anonymous-**

In our textbook, Jim Scrivener firmly believes that one of the most useful things for successful classes is observing other class and incorporating a lot from it into our own class. In support of this idea, I am going to analyze the class that I have experienced before through TESOL Module 01 including adult learner characteristics, classroom types, and teacher types.

In March, 2007, right after finishing the Working Holiday Program in Australia for a year, I came back to Jung-Ang University and took a daily English conversation class that was offered by the college. Since this class allowed local residents to take it, there were many kinds of people in the class who had different needs such as English for business, for traveling, and for their job interviews. In my case, I expected this class to give me an opportunity to practice speaking English on a daily basis. Although each student had different needs from others, we were starting the class at almost similar levels because it was the class for intermediate students.

Until that class, I had never taken any language class. So I did not know what a language class looked like. In my first class, I was happy to find that the class was exactly what I wanted. With each student introducing, the teacher was trying to listen carefully and to ask lots of questions about them as if he wanted them to be able to speak English as much as possible. As the next day arrived, I finally realized that every class would go in this manner, listening and asking. Our textbook describes this kind of class as the class that a teacher is doing fairly little that might be traditionally viewed as ‘teaching’ but is managing the conversation through lots of questions. Sometimes, he explained some expressions related to the topic, but he usually enjoyed listening to every student’s opinions and asking further questions.

While I am writing this essay, I realize my teacher, Jason, already knew the importance of rapport. The textbook explains that real rapport is something more substantial than a technique that you can mimic. In addition, it also explains that there are three important teacher characteristics to create a positive learning atmosphere. These are respect (a positive and non-judgemental regard for another person), empathy (being able to see things from the other person’s perspective, as if looking through their eyes) and authenticity (being oneself without hiding behind job title, roles, or masks). I think my teacher, Jason, had those three characteristics so he was loved by his students not only as a teacher, but also as a friend. He listened to every student’s opinion carefully with respect and patience and tried to deeply understand them regardless of how poor their English was. In my case, when we are talking about a volunteering work, I told my experience as a volunteer-teacher for 2 years. He listened to me very carefully and expressed his interests in volunteering. So during the weekend, I brought him to the volunteer office with me and he worked as a one-day-teacher there. After that event, I felt free to express myself to him because I knew he tried to listen carefully and to understand me deeply.

Our textbook explains that there are three simple types of teachers such as the explainer, the involver and the enabler. I consider my teacher, Jason, as the enabler who was confident enough to share control with the learners, or to hand it over to them entirely. He was not the explainer, but a great listener so he spent more time focusing on student talking time. At that time, I did not realize the fact that those who asked questions only have the controller of the conversation. For example, to respond to his further question, I everyday prepared the question in advance.

To build a clear image of the teacher that I am willing to be, analyzing the class and teacher that I have experienced is the most important thing. While writing this essay, I think about what kind of teacher I will be, and what kind of class I will make. Maybe my teacher, Jason, that I mentioned above is a good role model for me. I am trying to be a great listener and to give students a chance to express themselves with a more comfortable atmosphere. On top of that, I will try to be interested in others with respect and understanding. And then I really like to be the enabler listening, understanding and motivating my students.