Title: Teaching and Coaching.

“The teacher works with the student;

the student works on the language.-Gattegno”

 Esther Park. Taking the Tesol course, I’ve notice that a teacher has to handle a lot of things by own besides the subject matter. Some of the big things are that a teacher has to deal with a range of unexpected problems namely with implementation, enforcement and discipline of an institution’s policies. How should I control my classroom management?

Should my institution have a very strict “English Only” policy, I would make a lot of “Speaking Only English” phrase cards and attach them everywhere inside the institute for reminding students to speak only English. I would like to attach the phrase in every walls and hallways including the restroom and the lounge, to give my students a positive warning. I know my students will try to speak in English, but I understand that their Korean words might just pop out because I also had the same habit in the Times Media Tesol Center. If my students still makes the same mistakes by speaking in Korean, I should come in sight of that student with a big smile saying the word ‘Speak in English Please!’ to give a positive punishment. I would also want to make my lesson plans to include discussions and conversations for my students to afford more time using English. I’ll put a question to debate in my class so they will lay their heads together to speak in English.

Concerning absences and tardies, if one of my students is frequently tardy or absence, I would want to find out the reasons why. I’ll make contacts by making a phone call, emailing or visiting with that student’s parents to figure out the purpose of being late or not coming. I’d also want to encourage students by helping them with the capability of his or her needs to make that student enjoy the class studies. I was once in that place, 1996, when I was in third grade of junior high. I was so depressed that I didn’t want to draw or do anything. I mostly skipped my drawing lessons at the ‘Chang Jo’ art institute. One of my teachers, Miss Min Young Kim, called me on the phone to visit, one day. She was worried, came near by my place to give helpful advice I needed. After that, she always made phone calls an hour before starting of the class to make sure I come. I was struggling with the fabric to draw, she called one of her friends to come and help. I had taught by her friend for an hour or so, I became a god of fabrics. I also had joyful opportunities to teach other students with the fabric.

My students will be preparing their lesson presentations throughout the year, so I’d first demonstrate what they will need. I would want to give my students plenty of explanation, presentation and worksheets of the presentation. I want to help my students by letting them see their senior’s presentations to figure out their positives and negatives, making contact by emailing or visiting if they have any problems, questions or advice to support.

Using Gattegno’s word, ‘The teacher works with the student; the student works on the language’. To learn is our personal responsibility. I’ll put my effort to be a helpful teacher. I want to deal my problems with my student’s needs. I’ll encourage my students by helping their ability of English to improve so they will enjoy their studies.