**TESOL ESSAY #1**

**My English Class Experience**

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**Introduction**

I’ve been studying English many years as a second language since I was 10 year old. From that time I have met several English teachers; an English tutor, in middle school & high school, for TOEIC, and after university. Through those experience I find many things that they have were not same not only their types but also teaching methods.

**Body**

The first English teacher in my life was tutor. She visited my home at once every week and called me every weekday morning for English. She was an involver. Because it was first time I had met English, I didn’t know how to write and read the alphabet. Also I was visual and auditory learner mode. So I just listened audio, repeated the sentence and speaking alone. The teacher only explained the meaning of sentence and there’s no grammar, because I was too young to understand the grammar. Through that experience I learned phonology & lexis among the five basic language systems and listening & speaking for language skills. Even I didn’t reading & writing, I could enjoy English. And she had empathy and respected me. That’s why the teacher was an effective teacher. It’s was a positive experience and successful.

The middle school & high school English study was very terrible. The traditional classroom focused in reading and listening. Most of teachers were explainers and they always let us just memorize grammar, vocabulary and so on. The techniques that the teachers used in class were only audio types and textbooks. I couldn’t learn effective speaking & writing language skills for English. Furthermore my intelligence is near visual or logical. So the methods for traditional classroom were not suitable for me. Because of those reasons, I didn’t like English and spend many times to study English. If I had interested in English, I would never have studied in natural science or engineering. I think the method of teaching English played in important role in setting my goals.

I attended at English language institute for TOEIC in college. Although TOEIC score and English ability are not always in direct proportion, many Koreans are going all out for good TOEIC scores. And TOEIC score is very important to get a job. Because TOEIC consists two parts – listening and reading, the teachers who teach TOEIC in institute are focus on grammar, listening and vocabulary. And also they were explainers. Sometime I joined the study group for mock tests or vocabulary. But the retention rates are very low, owing to learn by rote. Until now my TOEIC score is not good and studying TOEIC is one of negative experiences. In this respect the teacher types, learning style and teaching techniques are very important when students, include me, learn and study English as a second language.

Finally the most efficient teacher is Coach Park who teaches English in English institute. I met him last year. I don’t have any experience to study abroad. That was always my complex and it’s too hard to break in mind. But Coach Park made me to think outside the box. He was an enabler. He used a variety of techniques; audio-visual, live demonstration, discuss and teaching/mentoring. In addition he focused in speaking and pronunciation instead of grammar. So he showed pop-song, CNN news and sitcom then let us to repeat the sentences over and over again in the lecture. At first the sound speed was very fast to follow. However after 10 or 20 times repeat the sentences were familiar to hearing and telling. And the institute has a teaching system which giving student a chance to teach other students in the study group. We called the students who teach others trainers. Trainers have to spend more time to study English then before and it makes their English ability much better. In addition Coach Park was an effective teacher. He has head empathy, authenticity and respect. He couldn’t speak English at all before two years he has become a teacher. Because he has experience same as me, I could trust him more than other teachers. I just studied for two month in Coach Park’s institute but the experience was very successful.

**Conclusion**

There are so many people who study English abroad but I don’t have any experience to study abroad. Those points make me despair and insecurity. So I have attended several English institutes and also spent many time and money for improve my English speaking skill. When I was 10 year old, I just listened and repeated English. There were no grammar and no writing. And the teachers always explained grammar and push me to memorize vocabulary in middle & high school. The most effective teaching method was Coach Park’s. He was an enabler and had empathy.

I have learned English through a lot of teaching methods and I can tell what is good and bad. Also the experience realizes to me how to teach English after TESOL course. Although memorize the grammar and vocabulary are important, how to teach is more important. At first teachers should give students things; songs, sitcom, game and so on; that stimulate them. Keeping students motivated by interesting them is possible if the teacher plans out activities that are fun and again applicable. I want to be an enabler and an effective teacher. I have plans to teach using a variety of teaching techniques and to give students a chance to teach and learn themselves through teaching/mentoring others. In addition, I will focus in communication with students and make them participated in class with several activities and group work. I hope my students could have interest in English by me.