It's cool in the furnace: First English Musical that I did

Many of the English teachers in Korea tend to ask their students to just accept what teacher says in the classroom. Teacher just want to teach language knowledge based on grammar and get students do the assignments and then check it out. This method is called Teacher- centered or traditional method in classroom. This is a good way to teach a lot of things in a short time.

However, it would have a negative effect on students like losing their interest in learning English. Here is a special personal experience with English compared to traditional method.

I used to take part in an English Bible Class in Church when I was attending high school. I made some friends there at that time and took part in many activities with my senior, junior students and English native speakers (missionaries) and teachers. At the end of every year, we used to have traditional events called an English musical and there were some repertoires that change every year. The title that I took part first was, “it’s cool in the furnace “.It was a story about Daniel and Nebuchadnezzar king in Jerusalem, a town from the Bible and I casted as the main character called Daniel.

Teachers there did not teach us anything but just encouraged us to cooperate for the events. Seniors students who had experience with musical, helped junior students who did not have experience. When we had some difficulties with that, Teachers used to guide us especially for me as I had to play an important role in musical and they encouraged me to do better. We did our best to prepare and did it all well finally. All students were happy with that and we realized that we can do whatever we want to do. Also, we thanked our teachers for their encouragement and monitoring which helped for our success and it also assured this way of teaching is a good way for us.

After that, I have been proud of myself taking the part of Daniel and it got me interested in English. It had a positive impact for me which led me to decide taking English literature as my major subject in University which I attended from 2003 to 2007.

According to this experience, the way of teaching that teachers used in the church was Students- centered. They did not demand students to do well and manage learning directly, but they were good advisers and good communicators, so that when students had some problems or troubles with each other, the teachers helped students to solve it themselves. Also, this way allow students to get through some problems first and then get over it themselves. This method could help to establish an independent learning style when learners learned and consider one of the important qualities of teachers showing how to learn.

Based on 3 teachers of types, I would like to be called the Enabler. According to Scrivener’s theory, The Enabler tends to enable their students to learn for themselves. Sometimes teachers may become a 'guide' or a 'counselor' and when the class is working well under its own steam, when a lot of autonomous learning is going on, teacher may be hardly visible.

I totally agree with this method that has a positive effect on me. If I would teach English language to students, I would like to use it in classroom. By using it, I could help students to find out interesting in English language same as my case. If only explaining everything in classroom, students would not study themselves and then I would not expect learners to enjoy learning themselves either.

Helen Adams Keller, known for coming out her disables, said that I'm not afraid of storms for I am learning how to sail my ship. If she did not learn how to be independent from her tutor, Anne Sullivan, she might not to be such a great person in the world. In my opinion, not feeding foods ,but finding out for them themselves is the best way to learners when they be taught.