Teachers can be learners and Students can be teachers.

***“ The moment you stop learning, you stop leading.” - Jim Scrivener-***

I was very lucky to be exposed to different cultures and environments since I was

born due to my father’s job which he had to move from one country to another.

Looking back, it was quite tough for a little girl to adapt her second and third

language when she wasn’t even fluent with her first one. However, they have now

become my big strength wherever I am.

After grown up, I could distinguish the big difference from the Korean education

and the Western education which I have gone through both. I could hardly

remember what I have learnt during my stay in Korea while I could still recall vividly

what I have learnt when I was in Hong Kong. I went to kindergarten and first 2 years

in elementary school in Hong Kong which I was educated under English system.

Unlike the traditional teaching method which was normally used in Korean

education which I was under few years later, I was always encouraged by the

teacher to be involved in the discussion and to participate more in the class when I

was in one of the Hong Kong ESF(English School Foundation) schools. It was

student-centered rather than teacher-centered. We were able to actively participate

in the class which led to a very productive based class.

Our English teacher Mr. Brown, had sense of great humor and of course he was a

very good explainer, involver and enabler as a teacher at the same time. He always

showed great respect to the students even though we were very young. He was

enthusiastic, patient and a very good listener which helped the students and the

teacher communicate effectively. He was our English teacher and I could never

forget the lessons he taught which were so valuable and unforgettable.

Mr. Brown always gave all the students equal opportunity to speak up and

participate in class. Although I was quite shy to speak up since English wasn’t my

mother tongue, I was able to take courage from his consistent encouragement. In

order to help students understand and to focus, he was always at our eye-level

and was ready for modeling. For students who learn English as their second

language, teachers like Mr. Brown really helps one to improve acquisition of the

second language and moreover gain confidence.

When I got back to Korea, I was very surprised by the difference in the teaching

methods of the teachers in Korea thus soon easily lost my interest in studying,

especially for the science and history subjects. My former teachers, Mr. Kim & Mr.

Lee, were explainers who gave the students only lecture. I could hardly remember

what I had learned during the class and till now I am not really good at History and

Science because I had lost interest since then. Even our English teacher Ms. Lee

adapted the traditional teaching method giving the students less time to speak and

had ‘chalk and talk’ lessons. Thus I had to constantly watch English movies and

dramas in order not to forget and to further improve my English skills.

I am now in the mid of the TESOL course, hoping to find and learn an effective way

of conveying what I have learned and what I know. I would like to be a memorable

teacher like Mr. Brown and hope to see the students making progress when they

learn English from me. I have always promised myself to be a teacher who really

listens to the students, patient and enthusiastic and moreover communicate

interactively with the students. I know it isn’t an easy job to be a teacher like I have

mentioned above, however I would really do my best to try to be one and hopefully

be respected by the students too. I will also never let my ideas set in concrete, and

always be opened to the possibility of change and keep my ears and eyes wide open

for any advises and comments. I will always consider myself as a constant learner

since I will always be learning from my students.