**Encouraging is powerful!**

Hailey

There are many necessary qualities of a teacher. One of the most important things among them is classroom management. Classroom management is learning how to deal with unexpected problems during the class. Without controlling, teachers can have difficulty from treating students. For example, if a teacher doesn’t make students who make a noise during the class silent, this will distract other students from listening what the teacher says. Like this, a good teacher should be able to control their class for not disturbing study during the class. The time is limited and teachers have a given amount to teach. That’s why we have to learn how to manage the class for efficient study. Let’s treat three situations of classroom management.

First, we can talk about an English only policy. When I was a teenager, there were not many places under the English only policy. However, these days, most English academies implement the policy. It is really efficient to improve English, especially for kids. I have heard about elementary school children who followed the policy and students got much better in using English, so I think it’s very necessary to study English. It’s not easy to control the class not to speak in Korean, because many young students cannot communicate well in English and they don’t know even some Korean words. We need to approach this slowly and encourage them. When I worked at the Incheon English Villege(ICEV) as a teaching assistant, which is the place like an academy located in Incheon where I live now, a head teacher let all students gather in each group of classes at the auditorium before the start of a class. Then he emphasized the English only policy in front of them and encouraged them to speak only in English. All teachers should also speak in English during the class and it is the point to be the model. Students can learn from teacher all the time, so it’s also important for teachers to speak only in English.

There is dollar system in the ICEV. Students get dollars when they do their work well and they can get a gift every one hundred dollars or five yellow stars. We change 20 dollars with a yellow star, which is like a sticker. Teachers choose the best one of the students like who tried to use only English and give a yellow star in every class. So, I can see students do their best to keep an English only policy. Students can have fun when they were rewarded for their effort so I think this system is an appropriate example to control young students under an English only policy. If I become an English teacher, I want to apply this system in controlling my class to use English much.

Secondly, we need to deal with tardiness and absences. To study steadily is the key point to accumulate potential so students have to keep their study time as long as possible. Teachers should make their students be punctual because if a student is late or absent, they could miss some parts in studying. We cannot manage all of the absences because there can be various cases and reasons of absences. So I think to find the way to manage tardiness strictly is to be more efficient in class. We can divide up into two kinds in ages of students like young and old. There were almost elementary school students at ICEV, so it is important to let them know why they have to be punctual. Matthew, who was a teacher at ICEV, controlled his class well. From the first class, he told students about the importance of time. “Time is gold” like this saying by Benjamin Franklin, time is so valuable that we shouldn’t be late. And he got a dollar from the late students. It was very effective so I like to use this way to elementary kids.

Looking back on my university life from 2009 to 2012, there was a percentage score system. There is each percentage for absences, midterm exam, final exam, and attitude. For example, if a student is late in class, he or she gets a deduction from the grade and it belongs to attitude. Also, three time of tardiness is the same as an absence. I was in the University of Incheon, located in new town Songdo of Incheon, and almost all of the classes I took had that system. And other universities have similar system of dealing with tardiness and absences. Maybe middle school and high school do, too. This is normal system in Korea so I can use it naturally in controlling tardiness and absences.

Thirdly, we can face the situation of helping our students to prepare for presentation. I have an experience of it in the winter of 2011. My first class at ICEV was the speech class so I could get a chance to help my students to speech the end of the class. I learned the skills from my partner teacher Paul. When a student tried to say something, he made other students silent and then listened to him or her. He also encouraged students all the time to make easy condition to speech. So I did it, too. If someone hesitated to be in front of the people, I encouraged them telling “you can do it! I can help you so don’t worry.” And I moved here and there to students to help when they needed me. Paul and I did great work and finally one of the students give a speech in front of all the students and teachers at auditorium when she graduated from the ICEV. I cannot express feeling at that time. I was so proud of her and felt really good. I know how nervous it is to present because I’m also very nervous every time I stand in front of others. And I also know the power of encouraging. It is really helpful for students to do something needed bravery. Therefore, I want to be a good teacher who always encourages students like Paul did.

So far, I wrote about three situation of classroom management and the treatment of each of them. Looking back at my memories was pretty interesting and helpful to think of being a good teacher. I learned from my experience yelling at students is not that good way of control. Encouraging is much more powerful than yelling. Like this, it gives me many ideas to deal with various situations so if I apply them appropriately, I can improve much. I have also experienced the way of some cases, but I still need to be more skilled and educated in the ways to control students. So I’m going to do my best taking TESOL class and keep concentrate on my work.