First Essay Assignment.

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My experience as an English Learner and the way I feel through taking this class.

I have not been exposed to English before 4th grade on my elementary school, and I didn’t even know alphabet until then. My parents were not obsessed with education, so I was more interested in having fun than studying when I was an elementary school student. In my school years, most of teachers was using ‘Traditional Teaching Method’ at that time. So my teacher also forced students to memorize every English script contents and internalize grammar, so that students to get high score on test. It was very stressful for me, and it became a decisive factor I gave up English subject.

However, I realized that it was inevitable to learn English when I started my first job at a shipping company. One of my duties was to communicate in English with our partners by e-mail. That was the reason why I had to start learning English again. I signed on for an English conversation course during several months, but my spoken English haven’t improved much. After all, I decided to learn English Literature at Korea National Open University by myself, and that was my turning point in my life. Purely by chance, I joined an English play club of the college, and had the opportunity to act on a real stage as an actress. Thanks to the experience, I overcame my fear of talking in front of a crowd, and indeed motivated to learning English.

While I was taking TESOL class, I was impressed with the connection between ‘Three Learner Mode’ and ‘Eight Intelligence Theory’. I think the first thing the teacher must do is to observe keenly what is the students learning mode. Because Students have different learning style, that is, the proportion is differ from person to person. In my case, 50% of Auditory, 30% of Tactiile –Kinesthetic, and 20% of Visual, so Musical, Intrapersonal Intelligence activity would be helpful and effective. The Open University is mainly using audio materials, so it is best system for the auditory learners like me.

Second, creating a positive learning atmosphere and giving a positive feedback to student are also important. Actually, I was in a depression because many of other classmates were able to speak English very fluently in the class, whereas I wasn’t so. Because I’ve never experienced at studying abroad, so I was lacking of confidence and felt uncomfortable with communicating in English. But thanks to Roger and other climates were trying to encourage me to get involved in this class more actively. The relationships within the classroom are likely to be stronger and deeper, and communication between people much more open and honest. The educational climate becomes positive, forward-looking, and supportive. The learners like me are able to work with less fear of taking risks or facing challenges.

Last, the importance of building a good relationship with the teacher, especially for young learners like my 5 years old son. They enter into a connection with their parents for the first time in their life, so parents-child “bonding” is the first stage of caring. Imagine who is going to the next? The answer is the teacher! Sometimes, I feel tired at the competitive society, because it’s hard to find a man of humanity. Therefore, if I am a teacher, I will give a world that there’s no competition between students at school to young learners, so I can help my students identify their unique strengths from among their many competencies. That’s why I am here to learn how to be a good teacher.

(587 Words)