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My Worst Teacher

The worst teacher in my life was a primary school teacher when I was is the fifth grade. Her name was Kim hee-sun which was as same as one of Korean famous actresses. Though she had a beautiful name like an actress, her personality was not so good enough to teach children because she judged only students by their score they got from the exam and took the bribe from their parents. Besides she was a kind of bossy and stubborn teacher as far as I remember. At that time, my school provided lunch for upper grade students. Some of classmates ate only what they wanted, so she tried to correct the students’ eating habit with a strict rule. That rule allowed the students which ate every food in the food tray to leave the classroom and enjoy the lunch time. She wanted to make sure that we had whole things in the tray, she made us put the food tray overhead after eating. So we had to eat everything no matter what was provided if we wanted to enjoy the lunch time.

Ms. Kim was not an enabler but an explainer, because she only gave us a lecture and did not lift a hand to listen what we wanted to know. Students in the classroom just listened what she told and took notes what she wrote on the blackboard. And we did not have any activities during the class. Almost every day she gave us a lot of homework to do after school and checked our homework tomorrow. We took an exam which is based on her lecture at the end of every month and she gave us a result after the test. The worst part after the exam was that she made 20 percent of students who got the lower score than others in the exam stand in front of other classmates. It was a kind of humiliating for those students even though she intended to make them study harder and get better score for the next time.

Ms. Kim was an ineffective teacher, because she did not care about students’ level when she gave us a lecture. In my memory, she just cared about upper intermediate and advanced students during the class. And she was not concerned about the rest of others at all. As I was one of the intermediate students in the class, I had difficulty to understand the lecture. That is why I think I learned nothing from her.

I think she did not seem to empathize with student’s problems, because she never gave an advice to students who were in need of her help. Also she did not show any respect and had no patience with the beginner level of students as her only concern was the top-ranked students. Besides she hardly ever understood the characteristics of students, because she did not understand not only our levels but also our personalities. She only cared about our scores, and she did not seem to really listen to us. But she gave us a clear feedback about the exam.

Therefore I have no doubt that she was the worst teacher in my life. I do not want to take after her teaching style as well as her personality because she did not show respect to students. She was the formalist, so we rarely had a chance to participate in the class. The whole class was like teacher-centered. Nobody laughed during the class as far as I remember, so I think she did not have a good sense of humor at all. She thought that receptive skills were more important than productive skills, so she taught us reading and listening more frequently than writing and speaking during Korean class. However, I think four basic language skills are equally important, so I will teach four basic language skills equally during my class. She could satisfy not tactile-kinesthetic learners but visual learners and auditory learners, but I will satisfy three types of learners with various methods to teach such as a game using body, a role-play and a video clip.