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Respectable Teacher

I was in my sophomore year in high school when I first met my Chinese teacher also my homeroom teacher, Misses Junyeong. Most of the students in the class only knew few Chinese characters and spoke brief greetings. So Misses Junyeong prepared diverse activities according to the student’s level. Beginners like us may easily lose interest and may not digest sophisticated course. But with her fun activities, all students could participate in the wonderful class she built. She made us one step closer on speaking Chinese.

When teaching the Chinese character, she split the words into the smallest unit and made us figure the meaning. She performed as an enabler yet she was an involver most of the time. As she considered the target language speaker’s culture important as the target language, most of the activities were related to Chinese culture. We made Chinese flower tea and watched Chinese movies to understand the culture better. Also she offered many chances to speak up in Chinese and teacher corrected our pronunciation. She made retention rates high by making us recite the chant from the textbook unit. As mentioned formerly, she applied verbal, kinesthetic, visual and musical intelligence from Howard Gardener’s Theory of Multiple Intelligence.

Rather focusing on the language itself, Misses Junyeong used the language as communicating means. So she led the class to be more vital and spontaneous which was effective than learning grammar. Students could learn Chinese amusingly and voluntarily with those various activities. Considering what we have learned through activities, she made up a modern classroom where students could be more involved during school hours.

I agree on her opinion that her method is appropriate for beginners. The 2nd language learners must feel interest on learning the culture much as the language. She never stopped wondering how to teach the class more effectively and kept studying Chinese. After all, she cared about the students and made a friendly atmosphere that encouraged students to speak out and be active.

Referring to what I have mentioned above, she assessed the student’s level, used ‘The Multiple Intelligence’ and made a modern classroom. I can tell that Misses Junyeong’s class was a success and that her teaching method was effective. I would like to be a great teacher like her, and would like to act the role as an encourager.