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**The Teacher Who Gave me Visions and Dreams**

Almost 15 years ago, I went to Canada to learn English so I took and completed the course of English as a Second Language (ESL). After that, I did not want to go back to Korea and I would love to stay the school longer than I expected because they had a program that I really wanted to take which is Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE). I met a teacher, Madelyn Mackay, who encouraged me to finish the program for the first time among Asians at the program. There was only me who was from other country and this class was totally different from the course ESL that I just completed because of the language barrier. I probably could not get a certificate without her eventually. Therefore, now I am going to tell you and focus on how she helped me to get through the program.

Firstly, Madelyn had strong empathy and was enthusiastic because she had a kind of same experience as me. She immigrated into Canada when she was young school age. She had a lot of struggling with language like me. One of the projects I had to do was storytelling in a circle in the class but the thing was that my pronunciation was not good enough as other students and she had already noticed my problem. She did not leave the classroom after the class with me and taught me the most troublesome vocabulary’s pronunciation until she was satisfied. Eventually, I successfully could finish the storytelling project because of her and I got an “A”.

Secondly, she showed me respect in her class. There were all Canadians except me in the class so they could share many cultural things in terms of early childhood Cares and Education(the course program) and agree to the ideas of some of Canadian student’s but only I could not get the point sometimes. She also recognized I might have another idea on something. She often asked me to tell everybody about how and what is different from Korea. I was sure at that time the other students could have a good opportunity to learn an idea from another country. I definitely could not get through the difficulty of getting involved into the class without her caring about me.

Lastly, what was the most important teaching way of her was that she was authentic. Whenever she asked me a question, she tried to listen very carefully and gave me enough time to talk rather than pushing or cutting me off in the middle. Also, I felt that she tried to speak slowly with her volume up compared to other teachers so that I could follow the class well. I strongly believe that she did communicate clearly and had a good rapport with other students, not least on me. Thus, everyone in the class seemed so comfortable and confident. She seemed to know each student’s strengths and weaknesses and design her lesson plan accordingly.

Even though it was the story about her very long time ago, I am so curious what would have happened if I did not meet her at the school, what I could have done and what I would have become. I am sure I could not do anything at all. I improved the quality of my communication skills from her more than I learn from ESL. I learnt not only language skills but also I realized what I wanted to be. She motivated me to be a teacher. I think she was the best teacher because she had good qualities of E.A.R (Empathy, Authentic, and Respect) as mentioned so I am going to try to use E.A.R in the field in the future. I will try to understand students by fully communicate with them to develop empathy and reach out to share student’s experience. For showing respect, I will demonstrate interest their opinions or ideas, communicate warmth and suspend critical judgment on their mistakes. I obviously will be real and do what comes naturally as a genuine teacher and care for the subjects by using connections between students and the subject matter to grow student’s authenticity.