**My Life as a TESOL Certified English Communication Facilitator**

 Jin sun Park

 131th WD

Dr.Frank

I have attended TESOL class for 8 weeks. It’s been a tough 2 month, no going to lie but very meaningful time of my life. I learned about what the teacher’s role is and how to encourage students to participate in English class. At first, I felt a little awkward because I wasn’t ready to study new things and meet new people. But I am different now. The experience of micro-teaching raised my confidence. Let me describe how my thoughts changed in various aspects based on my TESOL experiences.

Before I came to this class, I knew how to communicate with others but my confidence level was definitely lowest. Now having a steady job, didn’t graduate college yet… lots of things were made me have less confidence than I used to have. But through this course, and the people I met in this course made me feel much better. I learn so much from them. I learned how to be a good teacher, how to help student when they are struggling on something, and how to be a guardian. They all are my Facilitators.

From my classmates, I learned how to be brave. When I first saw them I was little bit wonder why would they taking this course when they already have settled down in their life. If I was one of them, I would want to have weekend rather than sit in the building for 16 hours. And I thought it would be challenged for them. But it wasn’t. What I have learned through this course were all from them. We did lots of activities together, which I will use when I finally become a real English teacher in the future. And I want to have passion like them. Before I took this course, I wanted to be a English teacher because I knew how to talk in English, and I thought that was my only reason why I wanted to be a English teacher. But after this course, I am starting to have passion to be a good teacher to my future students. And if I ever heard that I am a good teacher from students, the entire honor should be going to them and our instructor Frank.

When I am an English teacher in the future, I want to use activities that can facilitate students to communicate each other to solve the problem. First, I want to use role-play. Because students are interested in doing role-play and they can improve communicative skills by sharing their ideas. Also, they can learn how to respect each other. Second, Jigsaw and information-gap activity will be useful. Students have different information in these activities, so they should communicate to form a whole. It will also be memorable because they teach and learn each other. Third, I want to use decision-making activity. The problem has a number of possible outcomes, so students should negotiate and choose one. They can share their experience and learn how to solve the problem. Lastly, debate is also helpful to develop communicative skills. They can learn how to insist their opinion and how to persuade others.

The activities mentioned above have something in common. They are student activity-centered, so students can actively participate in the class and have enough time to speak. As a result, they can be more confident and responsible for learning. Also, the activities have high retention rates, because they are related to discussion groups/cooperative learning, experiential learning and teaching/mentoring others.

I want to become an English teacher who can create appropriate conditions for students to improve communicative abilities. I want to facilitate them to use English as means of ‘convey meaning', not for a test. So I will give them enough opportunities to participate in communication and maximize their speaking time. If they are passive in the class, they won't learn anything. I will always give them confidence by giving positive feedback even they make a mistake. Also, I will respect their opinions and consider students characteristics and needs. I hope to be an ideal English teacher who is helpful to students in my future.

My TESOL class was very meaningful for my future as an English teacher. Above all, I could improve my confidence doing micro-teaching and through all the activities we did in class. And I learned what makes the effective class.