131WK Ella

**“My Life As A TESOL Certified English Communication Facilitator”**

At the first moment that I thought that I should take TESOL, I did not have a job but I have had a dream of an English teacher since when I was a university student. But, I could not be an English teacher because I had majored in computer engineering which is not related to English education at all and I had not experienced teaching. For me, I could not miss taking TESOL to be an English teacher. Toward the end of the TESOL I am sure that I have approached to my dream.

The first thing that I gained from California State University at Long Beach Kangnam TESOL Center TESOL Class 131 is confidence. From my childhood, I was too shy to present in front of a class and still I am little shaking when I am doing presentation but it has gotten better than before I took the TESOL class. Especially, when I first did micro-teaching in front of the class, I was really nervous and my voice was shaking a lot. By the way, as time goes by I have been comfortable little by little also my voice has been getting stable. When not only the micro-teaching, but the very first presentation, some students including me expressed nervousness. Then the professor, Frank said nervousness is not an option. I could never forget the saying taking TESOL classes and I will not forget. Also during preparing first micro-teaching, my grand-mother passed away so I had to prepare listening and speaking micro-teaching in funeral home it was not only so hard but also the lesson plan was not perfect even though I tried to correct following the professor’s advices. I can still remember the first micro-teaching was too difficult for me who do not have any English communication teaching experiences at all. Through the time when I had hard work and experienced some mistakes, I learned a lot of things to consider creating lesson plan with materials, management of time and cleared instructions and so on.

Secondly, I learned creativity and various skills from other teachers doing on every class. Some teachers are really good at fluency or time management and some other teachers are good at preparing creative activities and materials. Honestly speaking, I think, I am not really fluent when I am speaking in front of the class but some teachers speak very lively, clearly and easily to help students understand the lesson well. Watching other teacher, I realized that I should try to volume up my voice to be seen as like I have confidence and speak clearly to help students understand instructions easily. Including the teaching skills, I learned life lessons and the ways of thinking through my peers thanks to that all my peers have different their own life story and experiences. I was being open-minded for learning as much as possible and all my peers were my role models.

There were many communication activities in TESOL classes including ice breaking. 3years ago, I had studied English communication with my friends but at that time I did not know about lots of interesting ice breaking so we did just talking about daily routine and schedule for weekend but now I know many activities that I can use for studying English communicatively with students. And I realized the ice breaking is very important to lead students to be involved to the class and to be ready for learning English enjoyably. So using ice breaking, I will be able to facilitate my future students learn English very actively.

Special knowledge that I learned is that depends on students’ characters, teaching style should be different. It was really interested and I could remind my school life with the information and I will be able to catch point of teaching style for students who have different characters skillfully.

On the other hand, it is very strict to be punctual on TESOL classes. I am usually perfectly on time without any space time whenever I have to be punctual but that is sometimes a problem like stuck in traffic or subway problem. So I always tried to arrive earlier than I expected that I could arrive at the class without being in a rush. It was quite important as I could prepare to participate to the classes well and concentrate on the classes.

While I write this essay, I am still realizing that I learned a lot from TESOL class. I was run off my feet during the intensive course of TESOL for about 8 weeks. Actually, I am doing full time work and I was too busy and hard to work, do the homework, prepare micro-teaching and exam, some other peers were the same though. So I have been awfully tied up that I could not look back what I learned sometimes. But with writing this, I have reminded lots of things about TESOL classes that I took with my great peers and professor, Frank. I really appreciate to be given this valuable chance to take this class and learn a lot. It was sometimes very tiring work however worthwhile enough.