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**My Best Teacher vs My Worst Teacher**

Tesol for Children 132

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Although, It had been so long time since the first time of studying my English, I can easily remember two English teachers in different experiences in my childhood. My best memorable teacher was my first English teacher at the language school in Australia. She was very passionate and authentic teacher, and her class was very fun and had a lots of various activities. It made me that English is not scared but quite friendly language and started to like it. However, my worst English teacher was my tutorial teacher in Korea before I made plan to go to Australia. I cannot even remember his name or face and how long I have learned from him, but I clearly remember that how I felt and stressed about the class and how much I got scared and hated learning English with him. The teacher was very typical jug-and-mug type of teacher and because of the way of his teaching, English had become my worst and boring subject when I was a child.

Firstly, my best teacher led her class as a leaners-oriented style. Even though the students were very beginner level with different nationalities and had all different perceptions, she always encouraged the students to communicate and tried to share their own ideas each others in no stressful environment by making mistakes. However, my worst teacher was very teacher-oriented type. In the 80’s of Korea, we started to study English from the middle school and it was a language class with full of memorize rules, grammars and vocabularies. Now I understand the second language means a lot, such as it also includes the differences of their culture, therefore the teaching second language has to be happen naturally like we learn the first language. But at that time, the most of English teachers in Korea had a traditional style in my memory. My worst teacher was one of those and he was very strict and had only authority to speak during the lesson. He just only had a lecture, lecture and lectures. His class was so boring and sleepy.

Secondly, my best teacher always used a various teaching techniques, such as the total physical response. I was only 13-year-old, when I arrived Australia, and I hardly could not understand any of English at all. All I could say in English was ‘hello’ and ‘how are you?’ and ‘find thank you and you?’ was the only answer I have learned. But through her performance gesture and body language, I could follow the class and understand easily. My worst teacher used only one material during the lesson and which was very thick and huge grammar exercise book with small font of writing and no pictures or colors. He explained the rule of grammar like a mathematic formula and asked me to memorize it all, then filled the blank and blank all over the time. It was very direct and repetition type of learning but no retention after all. There were no rapport or communication either.

The conclusion is, the both teacher were very memorable teacher for me up until now. They were the first impression of English to me as my second language due to they were my first English teacher in different environment. However, they gave me very opposite perception and experienced in learning other languages. It was not just because of their differences from the culture background , but the way of their teaching method, used materials and approached style. If I can have a chance to be a teacher some time in the future for young children, I would like to be an effective teacher like my best teacher and allow my students to create and share their own ideas in fun and comfortable environment. I also would like to use various materials and activities to give an appropriate targets to achieve naturally and not forced to learn like my worst teacher did to me. I would respect the differences of the students’ multiple intelligences and their self-confidence. I understand the language is not just a tool to communicate but also can share their feelings and it only can be learn by making mistakes.