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

**134WDKN Final Essay Kimberly**

My dream to be an English communication facilitator is very clear now. Before I took the California State University at Long Beach Kangnam Times Media Center TESOL Class I wasn’t very sure that I could be a good English Teacher even though I had some experience in teaching before; which means I didn’t have enough confidence before. However after completing California State University at Long Beach Kangnam Times Media Center TESOL Class 134 my confidence has been built up to be a good and effective English communication facilitator while I was taking the class. I was also not sure of the goal and the method for teaching English as the second language. The TESOL class taught me what to teach and how to teach English to students, so things have become very clear. The TESOL class convinced me that I made a good decision to be an English teacher again.

It was very helpful to learn a lot of methodologies and skills and apply them into my own methodology for activities. All the exams and processes were a great help for me to understand what the real English teacher is and also taught me how to apply the theory into the actual teaching field.

Through learning the principles of Empathy, Authenticity and Respect I realized that I need to create a comfortable classroom atmosphere for my students first before I start teaching something to them. I also learned that it is important to make eye contact with my students is very important in teaching. So I also learned that to build students confidence I need to listen to students’ response sincerely and give them feedback with respectful mind. I should not ignore any students answer even if their answer is not correct. I should be patient and listen to students carefully and give them an encouragement. Showing my respect to students is the most important point in teaching.

Through learning about ‘Giving Student Friendly Instructions’ I realized that I should always have a plan first before teaching which means a teacher needs to know what is going on and what the teacher is going to do during the class before ever entering the class. Therefore the instruction has to get students’ attention, be concise, specific and be explicit. The teacher has to tell and show which means the teacher always has to demonstrate first before teaching not just telling. The teacher should always check whether students understand the activity well and students have a clear idea what to do. If the instruction is not properly done then students will have difficulty to understand the lesson. I learned that the instruction is very important. I realized this when I did the first micro-teaching for speaking lesson. My instruction was not very clear so students got lost and kept asking me questions about the role play. It was very good experience that I realized how important the instruction is.

By learning the Multiple Intelligence Theory and doing a presentation of the methodology I learned a lot about students’ characters and methods. I need to prepare the activities considering students’ characters.

Through learning the Principle of Positive Error Correction I learned that I should look at the students’ mistakes positively. I should take it as students need to learn more. I didn’t know very well how to respond students before if they say wrong answer but now I will try to encourage and praise them by focusing what they did right and not what they did wrong. I will also give students the time and space to do self-correction. I will make sure to students that to make errors is not embarrassing things it is a part of learning process.

I learned that there are many tools in the classroom such white board is a great source to elicit interest in students. I will use the white board in a more effective way in the class.

Making an actual lesson plan helped me to plan and view the lesson and how to set up the classroom and to manage the class during teaching. When I made a lesson plan I learned how to apply the language systems such as phonology, function, lexis, grammar and discourse in an actual lesson.

Presentation of the micro-teaching more than one time helped me to improve the actual teaching. I learned that lead-in is very important when I presented the Micro-teaching. I realized that eliciting the students’ interest with a good lead-in actually influences the whole lesson. I will try to take more time to prepare lead-in for the class. Since my first Micro-teaching went a bit wrong way compared to the lesson plan, I learned that the lesson did not always follow the lesson plan as I planned. Therefore the teacher needs to be flexible during the lesson.

Taking advice by the evaluation process of myself, by a TESOL instructor and other teachers helped me to look back at my Micro-teaching and improve my teaching.

Most Koreans learn English for a long time but they don’t speak in English very well considering their knowledge and a learning period. This is because they didn’t learn English as a communication base. They learned English as a grammar base that’s why. The TESOL class helped me to have a clear picture that English is a communicative language and students need to learn English as communication tools.

I’m very thankful for my TESOL instructor, Frank. He was a very sincere TESOL instructor who always showed first before he taught us. Through Frank I realized that it is a teacher’s fault if students don’t understand the lesson, so teacher should be patient and study more to find out the way which can make students understand more easily. I also learned that the teacher should not force students to do anything that the teacher is unwilling to do and if the teacher likes or enjoys it it is even more effective. I will not ask for a volunteer to students because some shy students can be down and I will always demonstrate first. Frank was a great model to follow in the actual teaching field as an English teacher.

I’m glad to take the California State University at Long Beach Kangnam Times Media Center TESOL Class and to take the TESOL class was the one of the best decision I made in my life.

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