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Difference between Korea and Ireland teaching way

(Use my experience)

TESOL139

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When I was in the Ireland, I was really shocked. Because teaching way is so different between Korea and Ireland.

When I going out to abroad for study before, I thought most of the world have the same teaching way as Korea. Korean teaching way is traditional classroom like a Jug & Mug.

Teachers are always lecture, reading a textbook and every single class do individual works in front of our desk. Students don’t ask some question even if they have a curious problem. I think because they are not accustomed to asking. Besides we are usually try to read other people’s mind that’s why don’t ask the question. Also, Korean people think the most important things are a Grammar and the scare of the test.

Teachers (not really most of them, just a few of teachers) haven’t a sense of humor or they have it but it isn’t funny, it is quite corny. Not now but just a few years ago, we have a lots of strict teachers. They inflicted corporal punishment. And also they aren’t trying to talk with students even they are not listen to students’ sounds. When I was elementary school student maybe it was a 5th grade, we had a kind of outcast in the classroom. Me and my friends were loved draw the pictures like parody a movie poster. Homeroom teacher know about that and he doubted us. We said “No, we didn’t we just parody a movie poster.” but he didn’t think and care about our sound. That’s why I prefer the teacher who listen to students’ sound and I’m make a resolve ‘I’m going to be like an ideal teacher.’ But I know it is difficult to carry out.

However, The Irish teaching way is different from Korean’s. Irish teaching way gives a fun. I remember my favorite class was go to the mountain and take a picture. Teacher gave a disposable single camera to each person for take a picture. Then if we finished take a picture and print picture, show the slide together.

Another thing is in the math class. I can call it ‘Being a teacher’. First, we make some groups and then choose the topic. Make some mathematical problem and answer. We are going to be a teacher, lecture about their topic and give some work paper, explain of the answer.

Teaching/mentoring others is really good at learner retention. They are use this in the class! So, I think ‘Irish teaching way is really great!’. Because I memorized and understood very easily. It was real activity.

The other example class was an art class. We drew a portrait of artists what their already drown. Actually, guys were not really good but an art teacher respected our paint. Well, when people judged my painting works in bad way, my feeling is really bad, because I don’t have any confidence in what I done. But that teacher was cheer me up so many times then I have a little or more then before confidence. I’m really thankful to her. I started art because of her.

So, in my experience, Irish teachers are very friendly, make feel me comfortable. They’re facilitator. When students do their works, just listen carefully first and if they are having a problem, give some clue for how to solve the problem.

The student is on center in the class. That’s very different between Korean teaching way to Irish teaching way. Irish teachers are involver or a few teachers are enabler. But most of the Korean teachers are explainer. If someone likes an individual work, then might like an explainer teacher. In Korea students need a grammar and the college scholastic ability test, if so, they might need explainer teachers. But, if someone want to learn to another language, I recommend involver teachers because when I visited Ireland I didn’t speak English at all, so it will learn the language even faster.