‘My Life As A TESOL Certified English Communication Facilitator’

KNT145 Final Essay Sarah Song

Attending TESOL class in California State University at Long Beach Times Media Kangnam center class Number 145 I met wonderful class mates. I was worried and concerned about the class atmosphere. I was very satisfied with atmosphere. I was felt blessed to have highly intelligent and passionate classmates. I laughed and cry with my class mates. I learned a lot form my class mates. I enjoyed preparing for activities and presentation with them. I was impressed to observe others’ very creative activities and presentations.

Preparing and running my own lesson through micro- teaching, there were times I was stressed, frustrated and disappointed at myself. As a perfectionist I always wanted to do well and reduce the error and mistakes as much as possible, but when things did not run the way I wanted I had hard time overcoming multitude of feeling inside me. However, I am glade that I was able to endure all the confusion, stress and is working toward achieving my dream as becoming qualified English teacher.

It was hard to face my insufficiency, and accept it. I learned that instead of being down I should lean to improve myself and accept the advices. I also learned many activities and ice breaker ideas and how to run them. I also learned how to write lesson plans. It was the part where I struggled the most but I believe in future I will find most use out of. Through peer evaluation I also learned the areas I have to work on. First, I have to work on smiling and facing students in a friendlier way. Second, I have to work on running students centered class. Thirdly, I need to find a way to do positive error corrections. Fourthly, I have to work on my accuracy, making myself clear and simple. Lastly, I want to be able to sum up all the information and have stronger post activity.

I am very passionate about English and becoming an English teacher. Since becoming English teacher was my life time dream I putted a lots of thought to what kind of teacher I want to become, how I will approach to students and how I will teach them. L

The basic plans have not changed. I still want to become an English teacher. I want to help and reduce the stress of learning English. I want to make learning English fun and productive. The couples of things changed during taking TESOL at California State University at Long Beach Times Media Kangnam, I will get the certificate and will have opportunities to work at English camps. I was very firm that I want to work at international school but currently I changed my mind to it does not matter where, anywhere I can teach English I will do.

After graduating university, I was uncertain if I can be a qualified teacher or if I am capable of becoming a good teacher. I admit I lack experiences and I still have many areas I have to improve but I saw my potential and possibility of becoming a teacher. May be I have to start at a Hakwon or kindergarten but I strongly believe I will achieve my goal if I believe in myself and never give up.

I am sure that the methods and practice I had at California State University at Long Beach Times Media will be helpful. I did not know that each class have to have lead-in, main activity and post activity. Now I know, which is an improvement. I also thought teaching means teacher talks most of the time. As a teacher I have to feed the information to students, but the fact was I was underestimating students’ intelligence. I think it is time to change teacher centered classes to students centered classes.

I also found out teaching pre-intermediate to upper level students are much easier than teaching kindergarten students having no basic understanding of English. Even thought, I know it is easier to teach upper level students my heart leans toward beginner level students. It is because I know the hardship and can relate to their pain. I think if I can teach beginner level students successfully I can teach any level of students.

My instructor, Frank always emphasized that second language has to be approached and thought in natural way as Korean. I know that it is true. The reality is it is really hard to be expose to English equally as Korean in natural way in Korea. So it will be my quest to make it possible in Korea.

It is too sad that the class is coming to the end and I will not see my wonderful class mates as often. The two months’ course went too fast. I wished the course was little bit longer so I had more time to think through the materials we covered and put it into practice. I also wished it was longer because we lacked time at the end of the course I felt like too much information were not covered in depth.

Even after getting TESOL certificate it is still really hard to get hired in Korea, due to high unemployment rate. The reality often tries to put me down but I will remember quote “My possibility is upper than sky and wider than sea.” Which indicate even though life if tough there is hope and possibilities. There for I should march courageously toward my dream. The another quote states “Never leave that ‘till tomorrow which you can do today.” I often find myself procrastinating and have to stay up until midnight finishing the works. I will try to do my best at my place not pushing it to next day. I find managing my own time wisely is one of the characteristic teachers or any successful people have.

To sum up everything I am thankful for all the great relationships and memories I had in Times Media. Thank You everyone.