My Life as a TESOL Certified English Communication Facilitator

KNTWD145 Final Essay Pettra

I was participating in California State University at Long Beach Times Media Kangnam TESOL Center Class 145 since the seventh of December, 2016. When class started I was just wanted to take the classes and obtain a certificate from CSU at Long Beach. But, when classes started, each student introduced one’s name and background, and I realize that there are much people who have experiences an English teacher. I was really surprised that the class was full with internationally trained students. The TESOL teacher was the most ‘SHOCKING’ fact. Dr. Chavis, he was ‘The Professor’, always with an artistic hat, patiently, speaking slowly with a pace that students may understand better. A teacher that is always caring if the students really understood the lesson. Having patience to explain carefully the questions asked again and again. A professor even who care about our personal life.

From the first day of class the Times Media staff emphasize that we must think as we were in the California State University at Long Beach. As soon as we get out of the elevator it was exactly as they had say, we all were speaking English, even at break time. I really enjoyed learning how to teach English joyfully and easily to students. I have learned that first of all I must enjoy what I am teaching and ‘master’ the topic that I will teach to students. The activities must first be ‘mastered’ by the teacher before teaching so that when I am giving instructions to students I do not doubt or hesitate. Also I have learned that I must give student centered classes and not just teaching or giving information about English language. This means that I must focus on communication; as English Language is a global language for communication in many fields, such as –medicine, business, art, parties, meetings, etc. I think I was lucky to have Dr. Chavis as professor because he gave me 100% of himself as teacher and mentor. Dr. Chavis not only teaches me TESOL, or to be a good teacher with the characteristics mentioned in the text. He shared all his life experiences and wisdom. I have really got my soul, my life healed with his TESOL classes. I learned accurately how to become a good English teacher and have confidence of myself. He always said that we have to be honest, have passion to teach. He showed me himself first as an example of a passionate teacher that gives 100 % of him. He was a teacher who knew how to listen the problems and giving feedback to students. He was a good teacher that cares and shares with students their problems and needs carefully. I really don’t know how to explain with words, the silent and peaceful impact that Dr. Frank have in my personal life also. I think I was really lucky of being a student of Dr. Chavis. I really got healed through his English TESOL classes at Kangnam Times Media every Wednesday through Friday. TESOL classes were more than just learning teaching. I think that Dr. Chavis is like a wizard who knows accurately the way to elicit to students to get naturally involved in classes and have fun.

Now that I am a certified teacher by California State University at Long Beach TESOL; I would like to be as my professor Dr. Chavis. I want to be a teacher caring about student’s pace, eliciting naturally students to participate in classes, thinking and setting up activities and topics that are more interesting and fun for students so that they can participate and get involved in class and learn English without stress. I want to make students understand that learning English is fun; I don’t want to be a teacher who is just ‘giving’ information about English language passively. As I have enjoyed the role-plays in class, I think I will use much role plays for a method of communication and learning in a natural way. Setting up the characters and giving funny names and making up stories was really fun. Also making up a movie in groups and then with the whole class, was a good and mysterious way to elicit participation of students. I think that I will add these two (making up movies and role plays) activities in my classes together with songs and poems (as I mentioned when I started TESOL classes). Now I have learned that the ultimate purpose of English as a language is communication, I am going to focus on communication. I am going to think of myself not only as a teacher but as a facilitator for students that they may freely communicate; as a facilitator, make students use and speak English language accurately.

English Language is the first world language of choice for communication in every country of the world. So students as learners of English language and me as a teacher of TESOL, we must have this in mind first, that English language is communication. Myself as a English communication facilitator, I am going to set up classes without stress and make students speak out and use English in class as much as possible. TESOL classes thought me that I just need to be a facilitator and students must talk and speak as much as they can and not me. Still, I am going to use the English pop songs for more accuracy and much more time to be exposed in English out of classes. Also make writing poems elicits students to think in a peaceful and relax environment out of class; students can also practice ‘to feel in English language’ by writing poems. I think that culture and emotions of the students are also important and affects when they are learning English language.

In conclusion, as a teacher, I am going to be just a visual aid that facilitates the students an easy and fun way to learn English to communicate. I will be present in class as a teacher to help the students when they get stuck with something; I will help them, elicit students thoughts and monitor the students to advance in learning and aim for accuracy and fluency to communicate in English freely.