In Korea the teaching style had been almost similar across the nation when I was a student.

Before I went to the elementary school I learned alphabets by myself through the daily

home-study material which were sent to our house. It was only one sheet of paper as big as B4 paper, which included cartoons, Korean, interesting story and so on.

 English were officially taught to students from the middle school. When I was in the 3rd grade of the elementary school, I encountered the white man who was tall, blonde, and had blue eyes. I wanted to talk to him and check out if the conversation dictionary worked because there were Korean pronunciation written under the English expressions. But I was so shy that I hid several times when he turned back, while a friend of mine was just smiling at him waving her hands. And I figured out that the foreigner and my friend were communicating in the different languages each other. It was a little bit shock to me. The memory of that time motivated me to study English hard in the middle school.  At that time there were almost few English materials except for the school textbook. I had no choice but to depend on the English tape. I was wondering if my English worked to foreigners. If it had worked, I thought that it would have been like a miracle. However, grammar and reading were focused much better than listening and speaking. In some way there was no lesson about listening and speaking.

 It’s hard to pick out some teachers who were not helpful because those days it was the best. There were not resources or networks or good models that teachers could develop their skills through. Computers’ development history led to the evolution of the education in each field, I think.   At the university I had chance to have the lesson of speaking and writing from the foreign professors. The teaching style was a little bit different from when I was in the high school but the learning did not show the results in a short period of time. Even after the various experiences in the environments where I actually used, my English worked to some extent.

 Looking back on my school days and these days’ education I feel there are some aspects to be improved as a teacher’s point of view since actually the education is reforming itself and all teachers get those demands from the society including student’s parents, students, and business recruitment.

 First, we should think about the value of education. What is the teacher? What is the teacher’s role? Teacher is a helper or enabler who guide students to participate in the lesson and learning can be created for themselves. For this reason, motivation is very important for students. In this respect, we need to identify what types of learners can be categorized. There are visual, auditory, and kinesthetic modality for learners. Some students have high tendency in one modality or other students have balanced tendency in each modality. We need to grasp these modalities for each student, and apply the proper materials or activities to this different modality using well organized, colored ppt or interesting music or activities etc. And also there are multiple intelligence theory like verbal/linguistic, logical/mathematical, visual/spatial, musical, bodily/kinesthetic, interpersonal, intrapersonal, naturalist, existential intelligence.  Considering these characteristics, we need to make a plan for the lesson with beliefs that students are various different intelligences in order to activate each intelligence.

 Second, learner’s retention varies with the teaching techniques. Teaching/mentoring other students are the best, and experiential learning, discussion groups (cooperative learning) the second and third best. The worst retention is lecture. This is the point of thinking about how we can guide the basic level students to be motivated and let their learning be created. In my opinion, rapport should be first created through mutual respect and we need to listen to students and have them motivated to be eager to learn. In some way short lecture is helpful for the basic level students but it is also important for them to participate in pair work and group work so they can be helped from their friends. Friendship could be another good effect to their sociable ability and their social intelligence.

  Finally, based on the language like phonology, lexis, grammar, function, and discourse

we can think about how to approach to the students.