KTC183 Final Essay Penny

 As I wrote my first Essay, I want to be a teacher who gives a great inspiration to the students, and cares about what is in their hearts. I have a deep understanding of the great impact that I will have upon my students, young English learners; and the great impact that my students will have upon me and my teaching career and my life.

 I love the people in Myanmar and especially the children and the young generation. I would like to help those young learners through English education. They can then be able to communicate to another world, and dream to travel to other counties. They can express their own idea and opinions freely. I really hope to see that my students can make many questions and comments on my class. And these future generations can enhance the Educational situation in Myanmar. They can develop their country in a better way than before. And I also would like to assist English teachers in Myanmar.

 I can share my knowledge and experience through the California State University, Long Beach Office of Continuing and Professional Education Times Media TESOL for Children Certification Program Class. I would like to collect many resources and get a clear idea of teaching for Young English Learners for them.

 Now it is time for me to reflect on what I have learned, on what impact, and how I have changed both in my thoughts about teaching English communication to young learners and in my ability for teaching English communication to young learners based on my experience in the California State University, Long Beach Office of Continuing and Professional Education Times Media TESOL for Children Certification Program Class 183.

 When I attended the first class, I’ve learned about the students’ learning process. Since then, I’ve been through many important teaching modules in the class. Especially, I’ve experienced the transition in my personal opinion. Before joining the class, I had a strong belief that teacher-centered way is a very effective tool for teaching English. However, this belief has totally changed after I’ve learned through student centered learning modules.

 Starting from presenting your monster, I’ve experienced new findings by having interaction with students. At first, having interaction with students was very difficult, because I didn’t have enough experience with this kind of interaction during teaching English time. After going through several microteachings, my personal opinion had changed a lot. I could find out that language learning naturally happens when students participate and when students try to express what they are really willing to talk about. They also learn from each other. It was such a great experience to see that language learning seem to be evolving and developing by interaction with your classmates and teacher.

I would like to say this with special emphasis when it comes to teach young learners, a traditional way of teaching with patterned dialogue through textbook seem to be less effective. I could find out that the best way of learning language happens when you involve them in a topic that the young learners are really interested and they are willing to talk about. I should not forget the fact that language should be taught in a practical way, because it has to be communicative and useful.

I really enjoyed taking TESOL for Children program during the whole process. It was so great to have met such great teacher and colleagues that we had all the activities in active, open, joyful, confident atmosphere.

Before I started TESOL For Children class, I didn’t have enough knowledge about children. But now I have gained lots of knowledge about children and young English learners. The best thing about the program was having many presentations, tasks and assignments through the TESOL For Children’s classes, I have learned many skills to teach young English learners that I can use in real classes later on.

Each process, there was a challenge, but the biggest challenge was that I am very poor at making things with my own hand. So I decided to focus on what I can do to make up for what I can’t do very well. That is, I tried to come up with different ideas in each presentation theme, teacher’s handcraft to be minimized and student centered hand craft activities to be maximized.

The taking of the midterm exam was an opportunity to understand and reorganize some of the modules, however it was not so useful to me. Microteaching was very exciting and unforgettable moment. Though colleagues are all very close and already friends to each other, I tried to maintain an objective view in peer evaluation and tried to think of some points to make it even better. I got personal feedback from my instructor and, got the most important insight. During self-reflection on my own teaching, I could see myself that peer evaluations helped me a lot in getting to know my strengths and weaknesses.

Language Based Microteaching, Activity Based Microteaching, eliciting demonstration presentation, a vocabulary, communication, creative writing and presentation, and preparing a TESOL for Children Journal. They are all very useful for me to practice classes and gain practical techniques for my class that I am going to use in the future.

Overall, my personal thought and belief about my performance is that I do have a certain weakness in creativeness that young learners would like, but also I have my own unique high quality ability that I pay attention to each student and trying to come up with various activities by use of storybooks, music, art and novels which students can enjoy. To teach and inspire young learners to want to learn to communicate in English, the most important thing is to have fun using the language. I would like my students to find out that learning English is full of fun, because it makes you reachable to any kind of stories, music, movies. I would like my students to realize the importance that learning English expands your world.

I believe that all children whose mother tongue are not English are able to speak English by making them more likely to participate enjoyably in class. What I have to do is create the situation to elicit interest and response from my students. I will work on it by thinking back to my TESOL For Children’s classes. When I teach young students in the future, I should teach my students and be full of joy and happiness when I am with my students. I also should be well-prepared with fun materials, making a smart use of fantasy so that students could also have the feeling that learning the language is full of fun. I am certain that joy and the happiness would lead my students to having a better result in every step of the learning of language.