**My Future Adventure as a Teacher of Young English Learner**

**KTC183 Final Essay Elin**

I really enjoyed taking the TESOL for Children program during the whole process. It was so great to have met such a great teacher and colleagues that we had all the activities in active, open, joyful, confident atmosphere. I was nervous and not sure that I could take a class only using English before I started this TESOL For Children class. But as times went by, I gradually got used to doing it and I honestly enjoyed taking a class in English. I've never actually had a job teaching children, and I've never used English so much myself. But I want to be good at English and have a job using English. So, I started the TESOL for Children program.

However, I wanted to speak more fluently than I could, so it was hard for me to speak English naturally without speaking at a level that I was satisfied with myself. There was a great fear of accuracy in words, grammar and structure. But one of the most emphasized parts of this lesson is that language is just a tool for communicating. It is the purpose of me as one person to express my thoughts to another person and to communicate my thoughts to others. I didn't know that, but I was afraid of it.

However, my teachers and classmates always encouraged me and waited. It was a great help to me. And I was able to overcome my fear of communicating in English with confidence. This is very important because teachers always have to trust themselves and show first with confidence to students. Of course, teachers should use clear and correct English. But I am sure there are many English young learners like me who cannot speak out easily because of this fear. I almost became a teacher who emphasized the use of correct grammar.

Now I have clearly realized that communication is the most important purpose. It's the hardest thing to say for the first time. This is especially true when you learn a language other than your mother tongue. I learned how to correct errors positively even if students use the wrong English, and I will build up their confidence with great reaction and encouragement. I will listen to the students' expressions and wait for them. I will also focus on the way students work and process and encourage and praise them a lot. I also learned how to teach English through play and environment naturally, not to just memorizing. First, I learned many simple and fun games to learn English while preparing an activity with an activity root map and how to organize an activity efficiently.

By writing my first essay, I checked again the purpose of starting the TESOL for Children, and I could think deeply about what kind of teacher I wanted to be and what things I wanted to learn. And as I write my final essay now, I can summarize what I learned and felt, and make future plans and promises.

It took me a lot of time to write a lesson plan and prepare for the presentation. However, it was a lot of fun, and through the presentation of other teachers, I could get so much information and an efficient way to teach English. And it was really great to be able to actually see how the 7-9-years young learners feel and learn by participating in various presentations (My Monster, Song, Puppet, Language Based Lesson, Activity Based Lesson, Storytelling…). I was really nervous and difficult at first, but as time went by and as I prepared for the presentation, I gradually got the knack of making plans and really enjoyed participating in all the activities.

First, the Monster and the Puppet presentation was new at first, but I monitored other presentations and thought it was very fun and effective not only for children but also for adults. Especially, it was a great way to create imagination and interest in children. It would be very useful in real-classes, too. And monsters and puppets can communicate more easily because children feel friendly quickly. Class with song was really fun. Singing and motion together in a class can help break the ice quickly, and children can attend class easily and in a friendly way with music, rhythm, and melody, English is naturally memorized by students and can be output by mouth. I plan to use songs for almost every class in the future.

This is a very effective way for teaching of young learners. Teachers are the best visual aid in the lesson for students, and the presence of teachers is most important aspect of English communication classes. Remembering this all the time, I always have to do my 100 percent effort and energy. Also, in every step, I will always show first and enjoy the class. And I will use clear and easy-to-understand English that children can understand rather than a fluent and colorful English skill. Always prepare student-centered learning and plan for effective ways for students to come up with their own ideas.

I respect all the students and will recognize their individuality. To do so, the environment and management of the classroom are very important. Items such as table setting and group placement are also things to pay attention to. For everyone to communicate, the classroom atmosphere must be comfortable and open to each other. Children are sensitive to sight and hearing, so it would be great to prepare enough material for them to be visually interested, and to prepare some song of easy and fun rhythm that they would like to enjoy.

They are all very useful for me to practice classes and gain practical techniques for my class that I am going to have in the future. When I did micro teaching, I got personal feedback from my instructor and peer evaluation from other teachers. My instructor gave me advice and my classmate gave me some honest opinions and suggestions about my micro teaching. It was all helpful for me to think about my presentation and write a self-reflection regarding my own micro teaching.

First of all, it is important for children to learn English happily and voluntarily, and want to attend classes. I have learned that it is the most important to gain insight into my unique ability to teach and inspire young learners to want to learn to communicate in English through the whole class. After completing of my TESOL class responsibilities and assignments, now 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 classes. And I will try not to be a teacher who forces learning, but a teacher who elicits learning in a way that is full of joy.