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**My Best Teacher, Colin**

When I was 20 years old, I entered the college and I should take an English class during one semester to get passed. In Korea, the curriculum of English in middle and high school tended to focus on only reading and listening, so my college prepared the English class for us to develop abilities to use in the globalized society.

First day of class, there were 10 students in a classroom and a teacher came in. His name was Colin and I remember that he liked Korea. The students were very nervous, so we could not say even “Hello.” to him. He got ice-breaking time while a month, but the students were still nervous. He tried more and more to break the ice like asking many questions which are related in each student and finding in common. Even though we were not grammatically correct, he noticed what we wanted to say, corrected the sentence, and kept going to talk. He just translated it for us to understand clearly. I think it was comprehensive input because the students could hear full-perfect sentences. So the students could lose the fear of speaking English at last and enjoyed the class. That’s why I choose Colin as the best teacher in my life and it was a success as a language learning experience.

First reason to support my opinion is that he was modern style teacher. He used to talking each other rather than chalking or reading alone in class time and enjoyed using brain-storming. When he gave a problem associated with the theme of the class, he made groups and let us tell different ideas for each to solve. That made us to participate more and focus on the class. It is feature of modern classroom that students are active participants.

Second, he was enabler. When we were studying with book, he had us read a paragraph and talk about the topic. Then he showed video related to the subject and shared the experience related to it all together. After one lesson, we played a game with themes that students go out one by one, pick a word in the secret box, and speak for three minutes about the word. Most of the students were difficult and hard at first, but as time went by we wear able to speak ourselves for three minutes. Colin made us to be a good speaker.

Third, the last, he was an effective teacher. Carl Roger said that ‘Effective Teaching’ needs three things which are empathy, authenticity, and respect. I think Colin had all three. Speaking of empathy first, he was always in the classroom before class started and welcomed the students to come. Also, he kept eye-to-eye with us during class. Second, in the case of authenticity, he was like a friend not just a teacher. He listened to our words and made us feel comfortable by finding a point of sameness in ordinary day. The last element, respect, is related to positive feedback. For example, when students speak, our English skills are not so good and the grammar is not right. But he corrected our words without complaint, kept talking and generously praised. Therefore we could naturally reduce anxiety and become positive about learning English.

Those are the reasons why I think Colin is the best teacher and the language learning experience is successful. He had all the conditions to become a good teacher like modern style, enabler, and effective teaching which contains empathy, authenticity, and respect. I want to be a good teacher who meets all these conditions like him and have a good influence on students.

According to Stephen Krashen who has widely known and well accepted theory of how adults learn a second language, there are five main hypotheses. Among them, ‘The Input Hypothesis’ is the most interesting in me. There are two inputs which students know already and is new information. The former input needs to be comprehensible and slightly beyond the students’ level. Students can use this input and make errors to develop. In the latter case, teachers must prepare materials in ways that are not tied to language. With visual aids, teachers awaken the potential consciousness of the students and they can gain more learning.

In my case, as mentioned above, Colin motivated me and gave me confidence. As a result, I become a teacher and want to establish good rapport with my students like my rapport with Colin. To do that, I have to develop myself and combine with the input hypothesis on the qualities of Colin. I will do my best to be a good teacher.