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

199KTC Final Exam Essay-Matt.

I want to be an English teacher who makes students feel joyful when they communicate in English and make them happy when they try to express themselves in English. I don’t want to make students train themselves just in memorizing words or solving questionnaires for the tests. That’s why I came here to Times Media TESOL Center and am going through the TESOL for Children Class course now.

Among the many things I’ve learned from this course, most difficult and important point for me is how to make the students interested and involved in learning activities. This is most challenging point to me and I need to dedicate myself more and more to achieve it. To connect the lesson plans with the students’ real environments and interests, I need to put myself into the lives and thoughts of students, not only generally but also with each individual student.

In the TC lectures, I’ve learned an abundant amount of knowledge, gained skills, and developed thoughts or philosophies to teaching English to young learners throughout the 11 TC Modules. I cannot list all of them up but I need to note down which has had the most impact to myself.

* I need to prepare the class based on the student’s intelligence type. Specially, young learner are kinesthetic so they learned most if they learn while moving their bodies. And I need to utilize visual aids and song properly because young learners are sensitive to visual things like pictures with colors and sounds.
* Language ability is acquired by using it not by studying it. So the main role of teaching is to make good activities and games though which students can use the language repeatedly and dynamically in a fun way. And it should be organized in real-English-using environment where the students can speak or express themselves proactively and naturally.
* Following Student-centered Learning, I need to make the students ‘notice and want’ first of all. To do that, I need to open myself up first with the topic they are interested in and need to listen to them. After I involve the students in the learning topic sufficiently in the Lead-In time then I will introduce the learning activity. The activity should be designed to give students appropriate confusion or challenges. While they are exploring and trying to figure out the problem and overcome the challenges individually or in group, they learn language actively.
* For giving student friendly instructions: I need to prepare in advance and do rehearsal myself, I need to be calm and speak slowly and give instructions in chunks. Most of all, I need to demonstrate fist as a role model of the students and then tell them what to do. I need to communicate with the students continually throughout the whole class activities.
* The most important thing is to make the student talk and use English. When they make mistakes or errors using English I will praise their trial and encourage them by focusing on what they did right. And I can do positive error correction by giving more opportunity or chain correct, teacher prompt and so forth.
* Young learners cannot concentrate on a certain activity or topic for a long time. So I need to change the activities and class setup periodically to refresh them
* I’ve learned a lot of knowledge and skills to teach vocabulary, grammar and phonics effectively in natural ways. But cannot tell that all things here

Through the activity or presentation practices and Micro-teachings, I experienced various kind of simulation classes and each of it was big challenge for me. I found techniques for using a Monster or Puppet and Songs, Arts and Crafts can inspire students dramatically to move them inside the learning topics. The better and the more properly I utilize them, the faster the students will involve themselves into the learning activity and the more actively they will use English in the class.

While doing Micro-teaching I could see many points in which I was lacking. It was very special and most valuable part of TC class and I need to keep in mind and practice myself over and over.

* Do not spent so much time to find best video or audio files. Rather spent more time to prepare myself: preparing words and stories richly and practicing to deliver them clearly
* Rehearse the activity by myself in advance to check if it works as I designed and do supplements if it is required. Secure the time to prepare the class and prepare and preload the materials to be used in the class.
* Have sufficient time and talks to involve the students into the activity topic. Do not hurry to the activity itself. Because young learner are sensitive in visual things and colors it’s always good to use visual aids in lead-in part.
* Make the students move while they are using English. Young learners are kinesthetic.
* Need to have enough time to make the student understand what they should do. Showing demonstration is essential.
* I should not be separate from the students. I need to be the best student among them. I need to be with them and communicate with them and show them the best model of a student.
* Most of all, I need to think like a young child, should not think like an adult and should not deal with the students as I did with the adults. I need to be a child and enjoy the class first. If I am not relaxed and not enjoying the class, how can I make the students enjoy the class? Being like a child may be the biggest challenge to me.

I can’t say the whole of the valuable things I’ve learned from the Time Media TC 199th class here. I just wrote down some of them which has impacted me greatly and which is most important for me to be a successful English teacher. It is clear that what I learned from TC class is much different with the general Korean English teaching methodologies. If I summarize it in one sentence it may be like below,

*“Language is acquired by using it, not by studying it. So teacher should provide the students the real-English-using environment in which they can try, make and expand their own English world in fun, in confidence and in pro-active ownership.”*

I do not teach students to give knowledge or skills I have. I do not teach them to make them get a good score in their English tests. I teach the students to make them joyful when they use English and to make them happy when they express themselves in English. I want to be teacher who make the students extend their lives as they want, starting from the world of English language.

Principles of EAR, also learned in this TC class, tells me the key points to be such a teacher. (1) Empathy - see through the young learners’ eyes and understand what their thoughts are. (2) Authenticity– put 100% of my effort in being authentically me and giving sincerely to teaching my students, (3) Respect – respect, value and totally believe in my students.

Keeping these precious principles in mind and try them every day and every hour over and over again, I believe that, I will to be a real English teacher someday.