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In 2013 summer, I was engaged as a TA in summer courses which aimed at providing different biology knowledge for secondary students. The major topic is bionics. I was responsible for helping the students to complete experiments. For example, we designed a water collector which had the highest ability to collect water vapor from air. We also made a glider which flew the most far away. Moreover, we went to field trip and examined the quality of fresh water stream.

I did face several difficulties. First, all students came from different schools. They may not know each other before. I knew nothing about them either. At the very beginning time, they just sat alone and played with their mobile phones. They seldom talked to each other. It was difficult for them to do any experiment without communication. In order to be friends with them, I introduced myself and asked some questions to my group students and hopefully, knew more about them. For example, I asked how old they are, which school they come from, where they live and what their dream is. At first, they were a bit embarrassed but later, they knew each other better and talked more.

Second, since some of them were form one students while some of them were form four students, the age range was quite large. Of course, form four students had better analysis skills and did experiment well. Other students may lack enough experiment experience and may not fully understand what they have learnt. Sometimes, I may just explain few ideas, some students already understood what they need to do immediately but some may not. I always reminded me that never assume the students fully understand what I say. I should keep explaining again and again whenever the students need help.

Third, inside a classroom, there were always some students who seldom say a few words while some students always running around and bothering the others. It was important for me to pay more attention on the quiet students because they may feel being ignored if no one help them. For the active students who always bothered others during experiment, I must ask them to be quiet and not to disturb other students. It was not easy to handle different students inside a class. Being patient is important.

The training course offered by LET Programme was useful. I remember there was a training course which teaches us how to be a good teacher. Inside the course, it told us that we need to speak loud enough and not too fast. If we speak too soft or too fast, it

is hard for others to listen and understand what we say. Sometimes, when I explained some ideas which were easy to me, I just spoke faster and faster because I did not want to spend time on easy concept. However, the training course reminded me that speaking clearly and not too fast is always the better way. Moreover, I should not assume the students also think the concept is easy. They may find the concept is difficult to understand.

I would like to be a teacher in the future. Being a TA in summer courses provided me a chance to gain precious experience on teaching different students. It also gave me a chance to practice teaching skills.

From the summer courses experience, I learnt that we should always respect students' ideas and encourage them to do what they imagine. For example, we were asked to build a glider. Before we built it, we learnt basic principle first. After the students understand how to build a glider by using basic principle, we just let them to design and create their own product. Sometimes, their design may not be good enough to fly well or far enough. However, never criticize their design or point out the problem so early. Criticizing the design will only make them unhappy and discourage students to create better glider. If I point out the problem so early, they never know what will happen when they fly the glider. After they experienced failure, they found out the problems by themselves. Of course, we also gave advice at this moment in order to improve their design. Even though the final product may not perform really well, they learn something from failure. They know how to improve themselves from failure.

In addition, when there are naughty students who disturb others, we must stop them and let them be quiet during lesson. However, it is hard to let them be quiet because some students never listen to us. If the situation is out of control, we will ask professor for help. There is one thing I always bear in mind: no matter how naughty the students are, never blame them. They are just young kids. What I should do is stop their bad behavior and let them understand their bad behavior will affect others.

I feel glad that I participated in LET programme and gained precious teaching experience. I hope that both the summer course students and I will never forget what we experience and learn in this summer.