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UNIT REVIEW

Read the following student essay, which includes various errors. Then, edit the essay by correcting errors in punctuation, mechanics, and spelling. The first sentence has been corrected for you. (Because this is an informal essay, contractions are acceptable.)

Education Internship: First Year

September 15, 2004, received mail.
On September 15, 2004, I received a copy of my college schedule in the mail.

I learned that from nine to ten on Monday's and Wednesday's, I would be an intern at the accelerated learning laboratory school (the ALL school). This would be my first chance to be in a classroom when I wasn't a student. On the first day of class I got to the school extra early. After I signed in I put on my yellow visitors badge, and met the teacher Irene Dennis. I was nervous but ready.

Ms. Dennis told me that most of the children were in third, or fourth grade, except for two girls. One of them was Sue, a sixth grader. She couldn't read at all. At the beginning of the day, the children were supposed to be reading, writing or studying math. When I looked at them, though I saw that most of them were daydreaming. It was hard to get them to pay attention to their work.

At nine o'clock it was time for their group work. Ms. Dennis students all went to different classrooms, and interacted with other children. The students were studying Africa, with three teachers responsible for about thirty children. Each group had been given one country to focus on. They had to learn about the food people ate, and the clothes they wore. Because it was the end of the month the students were wrapping up their study of the Continent and completing worksheets.

My first job was to help Luke, a fifth grader. Luke's problem was that he tended to waste time and get distracted. However I gave him a lot of firm advice and eventually got him to work independently. Next, I moved on to help Randy, a boy who thought he knew all the answers. Randy had a hard time expressing himself. "It's an easy question," he'd say, but then he'd give the wrong answer. By the time I had both Luke and Randy working on their own it was time for us to return to our original classroom.



Intern and students in a classroom

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Classroom bulletin boards



Classroom bulletin boards

Now Ms. Dennis asked me to work with a girl named Tien. Originally from Vietnam she was twelve years old and didn't speak English very well. On a piece of paper she had written, "Happy birthday to you." When I told her that she had spelled a word wrong, she saw her error right away. Then, she wrote the whole sentence again, this time with the correct spelling. I wanted to spend more time with her, but it was almost time for me to leave.

The principle was making an announcement over the loudspeaker as I put my coat on. I waved goodbye when I left, and I heard all these little voices saying, "goodbye Rebecca." They seemed disappointed that I was leaving.

"Don't worry" I told them, "I'll be back." I didn't come everyday but every Monday and Wednesday for the rest of the year I was there. I loved working with the children and helping them to improve. I really felt I was making a difference in their lives.

In May, 2007 right before the end of the Spring semester I was walking across Campus when I past a little kid. All of a sudden I heard him yell out, "hey she goes to our school." He was pointing at me. I remembered this boy who was from the ALL School. His words had an incredible affect on me. I always used to wonder whether I'd be a teacher one day. Now I knew I would. I used to think that teachers affect on their students was exaggerated. Now I knew better.