

1.If anything was possible, what would your dream job be, and why?

If anything is possible, I really would want to be a flight attendant. Ever since I was a kid, I really enjoy going to different places. There are a lot of travel vlogs and I always watch them on the internet and wish that I could also go to where they are traveling. Being a flight attendant, you work while on a flight so you can go to a lot of places for free. That is why when I was given the opportunity to go and work in Thailand, I grabbed it. Aside from going to different places, I also find the cultures and traditions of different places and countries very interesting. I enjoy knowing and meeting people of different races and colors. It's so fun having a first-hand experience of what their culture is like. And it's also fun to learn their language. I feel proud if I am able to speak just a little bit of their common phrases and words.

2. Have you ever experienced a stressful situation in your past workplace (college if fresh graduate), what was it and how did you overcome it?

The situation that I consider the most stressful in my past workplace was during the Covid-19 pandemic in 2021. Covid started in the year 2020 but when I was still working as a teacher in Thailand, 2021 was the worst year for us. Like here in the Philippines, we also have thousands of new cases every day. That leads us to teach our students online. As a kindergarten teacher who is teaching kids from three to four years old, it's not just stressful but also very challenging. Since you're teaching very young kids, you have to be much more energetic and lively compared to when you are teaching face-to-face. Also, one of the difficult parts of online teaching is not knowing whether your student understands your lessons. It's hard to see their progress if we are not face-to-face and sometimes, some parents are the ones doing and finishing the activity just so their child can have an output of the lesson.

3. In your previous position, what task did you find most challenging and why? What task did you enjoy most and why?

In my previous position as a teacher in Thailand, the task that I find the most challenging was the everyday routine that we have inside the classroom. I handle kindergarten students ages three to five. Some of them are so mature for their ages but most of my students are not. I have students who still drink milk in a baby bottle. I also have students who are not yet potty trained so they wear diapers. And I have students who still cry every morning when going to school. Our students stay in school from eight in the morning until two or three in the afternoon. So aside from me teaching them our lessons, I also take care of their personal needs. After our lessons in the morning, we help them prepare their lunch boxes before lunchtime and help keep them after. After that, we have to help them in brushing their teeth and prepare them for their nap time. When they wake up in the afternoon, we help them fix their bags and other belongings before going home. It's very challenging but I enjoy every single day of it.

4. How would your previous managers/coworkers describe you?

I think my previous manager would describe me as someone that is very mother-like to my students. I can still remember when I was still applying for the position of kindergarten teacher, my manager said that he just wants someone that aside from being able to teach well, can also take care of kids like their own. And personally, though it is very tiring, I think that's the easiest part. I love being around kids. I enjoy playing with them and taking care of them. I feel accomplished every time they understand what I teach them. I believe my co-workers will say the same thing. I remember one of them telling me that I look like a mother duck with my students following me as if they were my ducklings. I am always surrounded by my students. I am happy that they enjoy my company and that even though some of them are already primary students, they still remember me and they are happy to see me.

5. What personal or professional accomplishments are you most proud of?

The personal accomplishment that I am most proud of is teaching myself how to read and write Hangul or the Korean alphabet. I started learning Korean when I was still in college. I am a fan of Korean dramas and series, variety shows, and of course K-pop. I started watching Korean dramas when I was still in high school. I remember I was just watching the ones that are Tagalog dubbed on tv and when we had installed an internet connection at home, that's when I started searching for other shows that are not on tv. And since I rely on subtitles for me to understand what they are saying, I tried studying their language. I memorized the Korean characters and practice how to write them properly. I also practice reading them every time I see them. I am not that good yet, but I am so proud because everything I know is self-taught.