evan bleker

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March 13th, 2011.

Re: Application for English Teaching Position

Dear Human Resources,

As an experienced teacher who plans to attend Simon Fraser University’s teacher training program, I am very interested in applying for an English teaching position in Korea. I am particularly interested in working as an ESL teacher again because I want to be a meaningful force in helping student from other cultures accomplish their educational goals and to provide learners with an exceptional learning experience. If selected, students will definitely benefit from my enthusiasm for teaching, my ability to communicate, my dedication to quality work, and the rapport I am able to build with children.

I completed my first teaching year in Korea in October. The position provided me with solid teaching experience and a chance to grow as an educator. Over that year I saw my teaching ability grow from a nervous beginning to a strong and motivated communicator who is able to craft interesting lessons for students. By teaching in Korea, I gained valuable experience in lesson planning, classroom management, and working with people from other cultures.

My communication skills are very strong and help me to be an effective teacher. My BA in philosophy demands a high degree of precision when writing and, as a consequence, the writing skills I have developed are very strong. I have also significant practice with public speaking, since detailed presentations have been required not only by my past teaching experience but also by my educational background and my employment with the United Way of the Lower Mainland. All of this experience allowed me to express English language concepts in a way that students could easily understand.

Your school would also benefit from my experience of working in teams and with children. Not only do I have a year’s experience teaching children, I also helped coach my brother's soccer team and teach self-esteem skills to a grade 6 student through a multi-session workshop. All of these experiences have enabled me to develop the skills needed to work successfully with younger learners.

While English language skills are a requirement for an English teaching position, the skills that allow me to stand out as a candidate are my teaching experience, my ability to communicate, my dedication to quality work, and the rapport I am able to build with children. I would like to thank you for the chance you are offering and I hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

Evan Bleker.



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Summary of Skills

* Strong ability to work with people from other cultures leading to a strong relationship with Korean students and teachers.
* Exceptional writing skills led to a student journalist position and a featured newspaper article.
* Great verbal communication skills allowed me to clearly relay English concepts to students.
* Ability to use a wide range of computer programs needed to create detailed presentations and keep track of information.
* Strong teamwork, leadership and social skills used to turnaround my AIESEC journalism team.
* Excellent problem solving and active listening skills allowed me to identify and overcome language learning issues and become a successful teacher.
* Good rapport with children leading to solid leadership and effective classroom management.



Teaching Experience

Teacher

Seryu Elementary School, South Korea. Oct 2009-Oct 2010

* Developed strong inter-cultural communication skills, active listening skills and cultural sensitivity to collaborate successfully with Korean coteachers on lesson content.
* Used strong verbal skills to deliver lessons to elementary school students and Korean teachers.
* Provided strong leadership which allowed me to maintain a proper classroom atmosphere and demanding schedule for over 500 students.
* Applied social psychology techniques to motivate students and help focus disruptive learners.

Sponsored Representative

United Way of the Lower Mainland, Burnaby. Sept 2007-Dec 2007

* Provided job training to volunteers leading to the achievement of fundraising targets and 60 successful workplace campaigns.
* Gave weekly presentations to the public, clearly developing my presentation and speaking skills.
* Coordinated efforts of volunteers and guest speakers to plan and organize workplace events.



Other Experience

Managing Partner

Taste of Vancouver, Vancouver. Sept 2010-Current

* Used market research skills to analyse the tour market in Vancouver, identify a promising district, and then sketch out a product offering.
* Applied psychology and sales skills to cold-call businesses and sell 65% of them on a partnership agreement.
* Took advantage of account management skills to push for free products and discounts from partners reducing the overall cost of hosting each tour by more than 50%.
* Used social media skills to target locals filling a number of initial test tours, reducing initial marketing expense and turning a profit within the first week of launch.



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Journalism Team Leader (volunteer)

AIESEC - Simon Fraser University. June-Sept 2009

* Used leadership skills to transform a failing journalism team, more than doubling output.
* Used solid writing skills to relay information to SFU students through news articles.

Journalist (volunteer)

The Peak Newspaper - Simon Fraser University. Jan-May 2007

* Researched and wrote a number of articles for the student run university newspaper including a full length feature article about investing.

Management Consultant

Scottish Enterprise EDGE Program, Scotland. May-Aug 2007

* Used active listening skills to elicit client needs allowing proper coordination of team effort.
* In a work team, wrote two detailed marketing consultancy reports for two local businesses which helped develop my client management, teamwork and market research skills.
* Drafted a detailed business plan for a new business venture which included all major business areas, such as industry analysis, project costing and a thorough marketing plan.



### Education

TESOL Certificate

Linguaedge Graduated 2010

Bachelor's Degree: Philosophy

Simon Fraser University Graduated 2009

Certificate in Innovative Leadership

Simon Fraser University Graduated 2009

Associate of Arts Degree: Psychology

Kwantlen Polytechnic University Graduated 2005



About Me

* Love adventure - took a motorcycle across the Philippines and backpacked through China.
* I’m fascinated by people. After completing a two year degree in psychology I decided to study psychology outside of school while pursuing other interests. This knowledge has proven very valuable in many areas of life, including as an English Teacher in Korea.
* Am focused on continual personal growth and development. I love growing as a person and am constantly improving on my strengths by putting myself in challenging situations.
* Have studied value investing for the last 4 years and am well versed on methods and practice.



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References

Seryu Elementary School, South Korea.

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United Way of the Lower Mainland, Burnaby.

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Taste of Vancouver, Vancouver.

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AIESEC - Simon Fraser University.

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Scottish Enterprise EDGE Program, Scotland.

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