

## **Chapter 4. Classroom**

**First Narrative:** One of the problems that I had when I first came to Canada was my language. I was afraid to speak in my classes and get involved in the lessons that the teacher teaches. I was afraid to make with grammar and pronunciation because I knew people would laugh so that made me nervous and it also a quiet person. But after a year by being involved in ESL classes or clubs I made it, I improved it by talking with people that were like me. After that I wasn't nervous anymore so I talked more in my class so that helped me too.

**Second Narrative:** My story is that I don't feel like talking in few of my classes because I feel like people will laugh at me. And I feel the pressure, pressure to rehearse before I speak anything because I don't want to sound silly in front of the class and teacher. There is also the fact that I am scared to make arguments during the class because of my limited vocabulary, English vocabulary, and I won't be able to defend myself. Uh, there is also the fact of Canadian culture that I am not aware of and teachers ask questions and I don't know and I'm not able to answer them and the only way you can help yourself is ask the teacher and stand up for yourself read more books that will help you with your vocabulary and help you to speak freely in English.

**Fourth Narrative:** When I came to Canada I faced struggles and fortunately found solutions to overcome these struggles. First is the most difficult problem for all immigrants to overcome is language. As for me I was afraid to express my point of view and my opinion because I didn't know how my classmates would accept it. Also, I was afraid to ask questions during the class because I thought that my classmates would think that I'm stupid.

To overcome many problems you have to be self confident, at least do not pay attention to other's reactions and you have to also be involved into sports, um all people respect power and strength and also it is the fastest and easiest way to make friends. Also you have to sit with persons who speak your own language because this uh this is really helpful, and um, unfortunately many teachers do not allow to speak in class in any other

language except English. So, I uh think teachers must let newcomers to speak in their own language so it will help them a lot in their studying. Also, you have to be aware that every problem is temporary and that it won't last forever. And last, and most important solution is be as you are. Unfortunately some people find negative ways to overcome the problems and these people began smoke and drinking and be part of bad companies. Uh, they do it because they want to gain some new status, and to make friends. Also, we immigrants are afraid to express our own values of our culture because we don't know how Canadian society will accept it. But most of cultures, they have almost the same values as Canadian society has. And we do not behave in new place as we used to behave in homeland, because we don't know how our new society will accept our new behaviour. Discrimination and racism often happens to us. It is nothing for others, but we do feel it.