

Where's the Time Gone? – My 2.5 Year Testimonial

by Kristin Brown

It's difficult for me to believe that almost three years ago I was over at my friend's house eating dinner and chatting about potentially moving overseas to teach. We'd spun the globe around a few times, so to speak, but the only lead we had so far was our interest in Asia. "You guys should look into Thailand." she mentioned. "My friends teach English there and love it!" She passed along the name of the company they worked for and we continued with our dinner. When I got home, I popped open my laptop, hoping to find something online about the company. Pretty soon, the Super English website was staring back at me...and the rest is history.

One year, a year and a half, two and a half years. Somehow the months kept passing and the length of time my husband and I decided to continue this adventure in Surat with Super English kept growing and growing, and I am so happy that it did. It's been over a year since I wrote my first testimonial and I can fully say that everything I said still holds true. Now, 2.5 years in, there are still so many positive things that I have to say about my time working with SE.



My MEP P1 class on Children's Day



Anuban 3 cuties

Over the last 2.5 years, I have taught at Thidamaepra, a large Thai school where many Super English teachers work. I can't say enough good things about teaching at Thida. This is largely due to the way that Peter has set things up for us there. Over the years, he has put a great deal of effort in to making Thida an enjoyable place for us to teach. I'm sure this is something that didn't come easily and I appreciate it immensely. While teaching here, I have been able to fully focus on developing my teaching skills at work and becoming a better teacher. There is no staying until 5:30 to teach tutoring, we don't have to fill out pages and

pages of lessons plans and meaningless paperwork, and THANK GOODNESS we don't have to attend through those Saturday meetings that the Thai teachers seem to have every other weekend. As foreign English teachers at Thida, the relationship we have with the school is wonderful and this stems from the positive relationship that Peter has built and maintains with the school. We are trusted to do our jobs, given plenty of creative freedom, and have the luxury of focusing on becoming better at what we love to do.



MEP teachers with Thai staff after the 2014 English camp

Another thing that has been wonderful about working for SE is that I have never had to worry about my visa or work permit. I said this in my last testimonial, but it really deserves to be mentioned again. It's become normal to see new teachers that work for other agencies and schools agonizing over a slump of visa problems, but thankfully with SE everything related to visas and paperwork runs like a well-oiled machine. I have never had to worry about what that strange Thai document is asking for or spend my whole weekend making a border run to get another 30 days to work or any other nonsense. Peter and all the Thai staff are so helpful when it comes to visas and work permits. Everything has always been done in a professional, smooth manner and it is a luxury to never have to worry about those technicalities.

Working for SE, things have also been really accessible. I love that SE is a small company. I'm always really glad that I didn't end up working for a big agency where you are just left to your own devices or have a distant supervisor that you can't ever reach. Peter or the Thai staff are always only a quick phone call or e-mail away and they have always been so prompt and quick to help. With SE, you have a community of friends, a family when yours is halfway around the globe. There is always someone that will drop everything to help you or give advice, whether it is Peter, the Thai staff, or another SE teacher.



our SE family enjoying a tour of the canals in Surat

Lastly, by Peter's always available guidance and working alongside other knowledgeable SE teachers, I have been able to grow immensely not only as a teacher, but as a teammate and leader. I truly feel that I can now walk into any teaching situation, anywhere, with confidence, humor, and creativity. Most recently, I have been able to work as a manager at Thida. The experiences I have had leading our team of teachers at Thida have truly been irreplaceable and I definitely have SE to thank.

Working at Thida through Super English has really been a great experience. I've met lots of wonderful teachers and friends along the way, traveled a large amount of Southeast Asia during school breaks, and grown in countless ways. Now, my husband and I are moving on to new things and I will definitely miss so much about this job and living here. I really feel lucky that my friend mentioned SE three years ago when I was sitting in her kitchen talking about moving across the world. It's been a wonderful ride!