TEACHING CHANGES LIVES
My name is Yuliia Shevchenko, and I’ve been teaching English for 7 years. From the time I was a little girl, I knew I wanted to be a teacher. Knowing what it was like to have problems with studying English has shaped me into the teacher that I am today. It is my goal that each student in my classroom is able to feel successful every day.
1230
That’s the total number of my students

984 STUDENTS
have become English users

80%
Great success! I’m proud of my students.
I’d like to share three life stories how English’s changed lives and students I’ll never forget.
Timofey came to our school at the age of 13. He was prone to misbehavior, truancy and disengagement. He would ruin my lesson by yelling and wailing. He never missed a chance to sabotage my class. I was desperate as nothing worked to get him engaged and inspire his interest. I found myself under life-threatening condition every time he came to my class.
Once I tried to speak to him in a fun and personal manner. He used to make different awkward loud noises during a lesson and I asked him to repeat that noise every 5 minutes. He was a bit perplexed as usually he was asked to go out of the classroom for his misbehaviour. But he seemed to like the idea. Everyone burst in laughter as soon as we heard his first awkward spooky sound. After that he turned to be very artistic and made unique sounds each time. I praised him and said he helped me greatly to organize class time. Soon I changed the required time to 10 min, then 15, 20, half an hour...

At last, my hopes for his change were building up.
By the end of the month he had learnt a big variety of wild animals in English and could produce sounds of a great number of animals and insects when I asked him. Just talking to him in a kid-friendly language was the key to his learning success. Soon he showed much interest in studying English and he was eager to participate in our End-of-year Culture Project.
Vitaliy was the most shy kid I have ever met. I remember the first time I had a talk to him. It was an ice-breaker activity and children were asked to say their names and the thing they love the most. His voice was trembling and he was stuttering. I could hardly catch up his name. At first he preferred to keep silent in English classes.
I decided not to push him and gave him individual card activities. Most of all he liked to explore dinosaurs.

Once we were drilling pronunciation and children were asked to copy my intonation. I was reading words in different funny voices. And I noticed that he enjoyed the task so much. The next time he agreed to be the leader of this activity.

Soon he started to learn little poems, then little stories, then role played the dialogues. Step by step he was getting more and more confident in his English. Gradually, he became one of the best actors in his class..
Vitaliy is a great artist. He always makes creative end-of-unit projects and I’ve got a big collection of his pictures. He also likes writing stories about dinosaurs. His English is very profound and he’s crazy about using a lot of descriptive words in his stories. He’s a great storyteller. I hope he’ll become famous one day.
In December Vitaliy took part in Christmas play and performed the main role on a big stage. I’m so proud of him.
I’ve been teaching Tania for 6 years and she’s done a big progress in her English. She has always been interested in studying languages and I was always there ready to give her a helping hand. We used to have extra classes after school twice a week. Every year she participates in language contests that are held in our city. She usually does very good and she has got a lot of certificates and medals.
I remember the first time she took part in FLEX program but failed. She couldn't help crying. She was so desperate. She refused to have another chance next year. It was hard to make her go again. But I would insist on the fact that not everything is achievable the first time. Surprisingly, she called me on the eve of FLEX test and said she would try again. I'm so happy she has done three rounds this year. The selection process will be completed in spring 2016, and we're so much looking forward to receive her final notification.
Teachers have power to change lives
Happy teaching!