This class is always enthusiastic, and it is like a small community where everyone is friendly and willing to help each other out. People also shared awesome experiences about the tutoring sessions.

I had to let my tutees make their own mistakes, but be there to help them without them becoming dependent on me. It was a delicate balance, complicated by their lack of fluency, and their own balance between pride in their skills and despair over learning a difficult subject. … Enjoy the process - you ARE making a difference in someone’s life.

Here, in this class, you learn how to schedule a tutoring session, explain things like verb tense or how to do a thesis, and how to be considerate to your tutees’ cultures… the class really helped me improve in explaining things. You know that moment when you know something, but can’t explain it at all? Well, that’s what this class helps you with.

Some of the hardest things I’ve encountered as a tutor? Grammar, grammar, and grammar… However, don’t fret. There are many tools and resources available to you in the WRC and in class. There is even a whole class dedicated to grammar in the middle of the quarter. Also, make sure to attend as many workshops as you can!

GRAMMAR!! I tell you, this was my Achilles heel. I know why a given sentence is grammatically correct and have often been tempted to say, “it just sounds right,” but this is not helpful at all. Some of the tutees have no reference point for what sounds right because the grammar rules are totally different in their native tongues.

You will have people from all corners of the globe, from all walks of life, and with all sorts of personalities walking into the WRC. A key point to remember is that everyone is different and you need to be sensitive to this fact.

You are in a unique position to really influence the way students feel about and approach English. You can instill confidence and encourage your tutees. You can help them start to overcome whatever challenges they are facing over the course of the quarter, and always remember that you are working to improve the writer and not their papers!

Every tutor I met is very positively encouraging. I guess maybe because we were taught in that way.

Along with the tutor training class, the team also often hosts tutor training workshops that you can go to, and I’ve found them to be invaluable.

The tutoring class has been exceptional, and has provided great theoretical and practical information about the art of tutoring in writing.

Their handout packet is akin to a tutoring bible, and has saved me embarrassment on many occasions with tutees. Also, the Bedford Guide book provides a wealth of guidance about proper behavior with tutees, and differing methods of aiding tutees in the learning process. I particularly enjoyed the
various sketches and skits we performed to illustrate grammatical concepts, or learning styles. These were a blast, brought the class closer on a personal level, and framed the information in such a way that it was fun to digest.

Tutoring this quarter has been a blast. I believe that I've not only grown as a student and tutor, but as a person as well.

To be an effective tutor, we can't hold every student to the same standard. Differences in background, learning style, and level of advancement all mold the expectations for each individual tutee, and we have to recognize this in order to be of the most assistance possible.

Being a tutor is a challenging job, but it's the wonderful kind—the kind that stretches your mind and nudges you towards new discoveries without pushing you over the edge of the pool into the deep end. You have countless sources of aid and wisdom along the way, from the Tutor Support Team, to your class instructors, to your senior tutor, to your fellow tutors, and perhaps best of all, your tutees will have ways of teaching you a thing or three as well.

For me, I clicked with some tutees and we worked happily ever after, but other tutees provided me with challenges. I took these challenges to the classroom and by the end of a discussion with my instructors and classmates, I would have at least one great solution to try out in the next session. Difficult tutees are opportunities for you to grow as a tutor, to be flexible, and to utilize your creativity to find solutions that hit home with your tutees.

My senior tutor has been an exceedingly friendly source of advice and wisdom ever since I first started tutoring, and I always look forward to walking into the WRC and seeing my fellow tutors. It’s uplifting to see the WRC bustling, busy, and full of learning in every corner.

There are many fabulous adjectives I could use to describe the tutoring experience, but the ones I’ll choose are unforgettable and indispensable. It has taught me things I didn’t even know I needed until I did. The people I’ve met, tutored, learned with, laughed with, thought with, eaten cookies with—they enriched my life by just being their unique selves and showing me how silly and brilliant life can be. The things I’ve learned—including how to better understand and appreciate the cultures of those around me, grammar skills, critical thinking and analytical skills, tutoring techniques and tools—have helped me grow intellectually, academically, and emotionally; they’ve enriched my life in small and countless ways and will continue to serve me well my whole life.

I was going to become a direct impact on many people’s lives. I was going to be the one who would tell them the what’s, why’s, and how’s about English. In some way, their grades were now on my shoulders too. Let alone the fact that I was already swamped with my own classes, I’d now have to worry about four to five other people’s grades! If you come into the job thinking you will not care, you are wrong. You will care. You will worry, but that’s the beauty of all this. To them, you are not an old man who stands in the front of a classroom with a poorly fitted sweater with coffee stains on it giving a very long, and boring, lecture about the cro-magnon and their origins. You are far more than that. You’re that dude/dudette who’s at the WRC every Thursday at 2:30pm. You’re the one that
tells him or her the reason why a given sentence is a run-on and you guide him
or her to fix it. Caring is part of all this.

Relating to a person who is struggling with something new builds an incredible
bond between you and your tutee. I learned English as a third language, so I’ve
had many experiences that I could relate with my tutees. Telling them that I’ve
been there, that I’ve made those mistakes, and that I continue to make mistakes
helps them be at ease and be more receptive. My culture has also become a
great addition in my tutor persona I’ve slowly built during my tutoring sessions.
Being from Panama, I have received many curious questions from my tutee,
which would almost always lead to both of us learning something new about
each other’s cultures. As you can see, the tutoring experience is far more than
telling them that a given verb tense is wrong, or that their thesis statement is
weak and vague.

Finally, I’ll give you some general tips that, funnily, work for almost everything in
life. Do NOT be too nice. Do NOT be too rough. Do NOT panic. Do NOT be
complacent. DO care. DO worry. DO your best. That’s all I got. Good luck to you
and I hope that you have fun!

If one were to ask how to achieve the most out of tutoring, I would say to ask
questions and do it emphatically and annoyingly. Annoy your senior tutors and
support team with genuine questions until they become tired of seeing your face.
This is how you learn. The Dalai Lama once entered a room full of people waiting
to hear him speak and he walked in, remaining quiet for five minutes. Someone
finally mustered up the courage to ask if he intends on speaking. He wisely
answered, “There can be no lesson if there is no question.” Curiosity is golden.

My experience as a WRC tutor has helped me grow out of my shell, and it has
helped me communicate more effectively.

After taking the tutoring training class and doing some tutoring sections with my
tutee, being a tutor is more than just a regular job to earn money; through this
experience, I learn about aspects that will benefit me in the long run, such as
professionalism, cultural competence and communication skills.