My Learning Experience

by LEE HWA YEONG

I was unconcerned with second language when I was young. I always said, 'I'm not going to foreign country'. I not feel much interest in language. but I was taught two kind of language in school, these are Japanese and English. It is very different between Japanese and English class teacher's teaching style. One is very strict and the other is opposing type. It is remained as opposed ideas about the language in my mind still now. One is that I'll never study again, other is still studying. I am going to explain it how it was different between the classes.

First of all, Japanese teacher was very strict and his type of teaching is close to a grammar-translation method. Every time at the class, the teacher taught us grammar by a textbook. After the class, student should memorize the dialog and vocabulary which we learned the day. That is homework. He thinks all student have to assume a serious attitude at class and play is impossible during the lesson. He creates an silent atmosphere and the lesson atmosphere is always heavy. He is a simple and honest fellow of the old form. The homework is estimated by recitation before beginning of the lesson. I think it is very hard to judge a pronunciation. But he always evaluates students by himself. Sometimes I suffered a punishment that I was whipped hips or hold a chair in my hand, although I have done all my homework. It makes that most students lose interest about this lesson and give up studying Japanese rather than study more hard. Also, I prepared a pants which will wear before the penalty and I enjoyed during punishment with my friends who lose concern this class too. In the event, the serious atmosphere, lots of homework and punishment made us abandoned the class.

The other is an English teacher. This class is also similar to grammar-translation method but the teacher has different mind about classroom atmosphere. She tried to make informal atmosphere which has more activities and conversations and she wants to make a lesson which students participate in and activities together during the class. She runs off the class by showing an example. she used many kinds of materials for the lesson. Though She usually used a text book for grammar, she prepared handouts, video and the others for the class. She thinks that listening and seeing are more important than just rote learning from textbooks. For speaking, she reads first and then we follow her. For listening, she turns on a tape repeatedly until we can hear it. She said, 'practice is very important. Do something for exercise. Listen to a pop song, watch a movie.' The teacher emphasized the importance of preparing for class as a homework, but there isn't check. It is just for myself. This type of lesson is good for me who is poor about English more than the lesson which makes a discrimination between right and wrong. I can participate in class without uneasiness, and then I take and interest in lesson.

I experienced two types of teacher. I can't choose who is good or not. But in my case, an English teacher was better than Japanese. I think it is depended upon an oppressive feeling in my mind. Japanese class makes me to give-up the lesson which have to take stress at all times. The other side, the English class was draw my interest naturally. a tense atmosphere is important for general class, but I think that too much strict atmosphere can make a rejection.

In education, I think that interesting study is more important than force.