Second Language Acquisition Assingment

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I agree with Stephen Krashen that "Language acquisition does not require extensive use of conscious grammatical rules, and does not require tedious drill."

Nowadays, many people learn other languages everywhere. But sad to say, we are not much exposed to speak it which we can’t be good in using other language all the times. I had an experience with failure of Second language acquisition, especially in English. When I was the 1st high school student, I had an English class. But, I could say that it was totally a boring class. Not only I got low grades but also couldn’t understand what he was doing during the class. Since I have started studying Tesol, I have found out some problems in my high school English class.

First above all, the teacher definitely was just an explainer.

He knew English well, but he always spoke himself without any interaction with the students. During his lecture, we did nothing but just pretending to listen. We sometimes took some notes which he wrote something in board and read only textbook. Actually I did not understand what the context means, but I couldn’t ask him anything about it. It was like I would interrupt his lecture if I make some questions to him. In his teaching for vocabularies, he gave general meaning and pronounced with his unclear voice then I had to memorize the words. For grammars, he explained the subject matters and gave examples from the textbooks.

Secondly, the class was a traditional class. He was the one who’s only talking. There was just lecture during the class. It seemed like the students only listened his lecture and reading the textbook. There were no participations even pair works or group discussions. Sometimes we did some activities as short quizzes and solo speech contests but they existed for recording our grades only. I could remember the scene when there was a speech contest, which I panicked, because I could not speak anything in English at all. Moreover, I had not had speaking classes ever.

Thirdly, there were lacks of effective teaching techniques. What he did in class was only had lectures and readings. It was difficult to understand how the things were going on without activities as live demonstration, discussions between students and experiential learning. While the class was on going, I just pretended to listen his lecture and lost interest in learning English more and more. Even he was not enthusiastic to teach for the students who he did not care about his students. So what would I learn anything from him?

Lastly, his teaching method was not suit for me. My mainly learning styles are Intrapersonal intelligence and musical intelligence. So the effective teaching way for me was using sensitivity to rhythm or melodies and self evaluation to understand myself and practice self disciplines. But he disregarded the different of learning styles of his students.

My high school English class can be considered a failure learning experience. Because my English teacher in high school was definitely an explainer , the class was a traditional class, there were lacks of effective teaching techniques and his teaching method was not suit for me. He should have studied his class more to have a successful second language learning class.

Likewise he should have considered what level of the class, the different learning style of his student and the effective teaching styles for his students.