Report

My Second Language Acquisition Experience

Teacher : Valerie

Student : Liz

Class : #34(weekend)

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Traditional-modern classroom

The center of learning should be learners in the modern classroom. They have a right to participate in the class actively. Unfortunately when I started to learn English when I was 14 years old at middle school, all we have to do was to listen to the teacher, read and write down things on the book. I still remember those days full of memorizing vocabularies and dialogues. The most important part of language learning- communication didn’t happen. That made me frustrated. Now I’ve grown up and been working at kindergarten as English teacher. My students don’t study English like I did, they just acquire the language through English-spoken environment. They love to play games and doing different activities everyday all in English. They are willing to speak English in order to communicate with their peers or teachers.

Teacher types

I’ve met many teachers like warm hearted, strict, smart, supportive, but mostly they belonged to one type: explainer. They were eager to explain and made us write down things we learned. They are sometimes quite strict to be accurate when we pronunciate, in some ways, it can be good, but made us embarrassed as well. Sometimes there was a teacher makes us wonder what it means when read a book, so we could guess in a given context, I think things we learned through that way lasted long. Now I realized that he belong to an involver teacher types. But I couldn’t find any Enabler type during my school days.

Effective teaching

One of the most important qualifications teachers should possess might be this ; how much they know about the subject well. From this point of view, teachers I met were excellent only if they tried various ways of teaching. Knowing it and teaching it is different. Reading, translating and teaching grammar is not all of language learning.

According to the 'Effective Teaching', being enthusiastic, having a good sense of humour for teachers is important as well. There was a teacher during my school days called Cappuccino cause he was so passionate when he gave a lecture with saliva at the corner of his mouth. I couldn’t sleep when he speaks enthusiastically, it was boring though. When learners feels exciting, endorphin is released, and efficiency increases. So did my learning experience, too.

When my teacher told funny stories and made us relaxed, then I could easily focus on the subject.

Meanwhile, my school days learning meant test. Once we’re learned, had to take a test, so it doesn’t have enough time for teachers to give clear, positive feedback to students. STUDY FOR A TEST, THEN ALL GONE, NO FEEDBACK.

Learning styles

Every students has different personalities. If a teacher knows what each student is like, then it must be more efficient. From my experience, I was quite shy, personal student. So the individual tasks like reading, solving problems were suitable. But I’m also music-persuing person, too. I like musical environment. I remember when we study boring literatures, my teacher played us some music so we could make a connection with the work of art comfortably.

I found myself being interpersonal intelligence, too. When we had a discuss or group study, I liked to express my opinion and was excited when the team I belonged was better than others. Being intrapersonal and Interpersonal sounds different, but they are often found both, just depends on the mood I guess.

I like musical environment. I think I was an intrapersonal and musical intelligent student, who like tapping out poetic rhythms when study boring literature, and patterns.