TESOL 01: Second Language Acquisition Assignment

**< Unforgettable Memories \_ Experience of Learning Language >**

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I had a successful experience learning English. In spite of tough times, Whenever I remember those times, I smile and my face brightens. I want to return to those times.

At the sizzling heat of summer 2003, I was 21 years old. Every campus was vacant and kept silent, While Institute Street of Jong-Ro in Seoul was crowded and Every Building poured out masses of students. My class was for an examination for special admission. Due to the strong air-conditioning wind, Though it was like early winter. Student’s eyes were glittering including my. My teacher was Beauty. At first sight, I thought she was Miss-Korea. I came close to give up the class, due to my stereotype of seeing “Beauty is not smart.” Anyway, I attended the class, She was an Explainer. Within 5 months, We had studies throughout Grammer of English, over 36.000 Vocabulary and Reading, a level of TOFEL. Because of 100 students bursting at the seams in the class, The class was hard traditional classrooms that are Teacher centered, chalk and talk approach and a brain dump. So the teacher had no choice but to be an Explainer. Sometimes for students dozing off and falling into other thoughts, she volunteered to be an Involver. She made us mimic and gave questions. Whenever she teached grammer, she was an Enabler. Lots of material and hand out She prepared. Her diligence made us great troubleshooters of grammer questions.

Actually we learners were intimidated because of thoughts until 20s we are not good at English. So we hoped to be respected and protected from blame and shame. And ultimately, we wanted to transfer School successfully. We all were goal-oriented, autonomous and relevancy-oriented that is characteristics of adult learners. As much as passion We had, our greed overflowded. Because of Our flinching English ability we often felt torture in vain.

For such a stale us, She showed steady respect and cast humor that is one of Effective teaching in a timely fashion. That gave vigor to our class. Above all, her teaching was excellent.

First, She taught grammer easily as soon as possible so didn’t use difficult terms. She said “Learning grammer at a junior high school level is enough to have a command of English”.

Second, She kept repeating what we learned. Especially at the beginning of class she summarized the most important points learned previous lecture for 3~5 minutes. It was so effective to remind us memories. And she often turned back to table of contents, summarized points and made us see the forest not a tree like noun or adjective.

Third, when teaching reading, She directly translated English sentence to Korean not to rearrange Korean grammer. Her teaching embedded American ways of thinking to us.

Fourth, With confidence she taught us English. So we felt comfortable and could trust her. Moreover her positive and cheerful personality allowed us be interested in English.

Even though She kept gaining weight -Later, I knew for marriage She drastically lost her weight- Her attraction seldom or never disappeared. She was like an angel coming down from heaven for helping our language acquisition. With her help, I came to love and enjoy English. Now she is a famous lecture in part of public administration enterance Test. Her name is Li-Ra Lee.

Stephen Krashen said that “Learning Second Language Acquisition does not belong to study hard. We have to approach English Acquisition not as scholarship but as pleasure.” At this point she was just an overall teacher. Like her, I want to be a good teacher. For this, I have to study more and have enough patient and forbearance until all students can follow my class and learn English well. Also I as an Involver want to lead student’s participation to make modern classrooms student-centered. Also by making vibrant classrooms, I could let them know English is funny. If I could hold a candle to her in regards of teaching, I have no doubt of being a successful teacher.