**My Failure Learning Japanese in University**

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(581)

When I was a university student, I had a chance to be an exchange student at Nanaimo, Canada. Nanaimo is very small city so that it was hardly find Korean who can share with my feeling. Luckily, there are some students from Japan whose are very similar with Korean and I had a great relationship with them. I also found that Japanese language is a lot of in common with Korean; I thought Japanese is most easy language that I could learn. That’s why I decided to study Japanese right after coming back to Korea and took a Japanese class at university. I could only take a beginner class and Professor Mrs. Lee is explainer and only using Korean during the class.

The beginner class starts with memorizing Japanese character- Hirakana. When I decided to start to learn Japanese I didn’t think of learning written language because I didn’t think that’s important. I am auditory student which likes to read aloud and like to hear conversation. Even I am auditory student, I tried a lot for memorizing all the Japanese character and it was very self-satisfaction for me in the mid-term. Also, I wanted to have good conclusion for end of the class.

Even I studied a lot for a short time, I was unable to speak any of Japanese because Mrs. Lee lectured and push me memorizing grammar only. I wanted to learn actual conversation by Japanese not a grammar. She lectured for boring way and only uses textbook and exams with no authentic materials. Compare from learning English at Canada, it was very different. I had lots of group work and discussion at the class and students had lots of chance to speak in Canada class which is much more effective for me. Due to teaching way at Japanese class, I lost concern for Japanese. I wish she was an enabler or involver, and then I could much concentrate on the class. Because she is explainer, it doesn’t work at all for me.

The most reason I failed learning Japanese is result of the final exam. I spent most of my time on studying Japanese to get great score in entire class in my university. Beyond my expectation, unfortunately, I got ‘B’ for Japanese class and very disappointed didn’t’ want to look at Japanese anymore. I complained Mrs. Lee regarding my score but she answer that ‘you were great, but there are many students above you. You should try more.’ I felt so sad also disappointed very much because I heard a reputation that Mrs. Lee never give ‘A’ for other majoring student.

Japanese is not easy as I thought at all. Especially, I meet teacher who only focus on grammar. If I have a time to learn Japanese in the future I will strictly compare for teacher’s style like lecture or activities. Definitely find more focus on phonology, function and discourse system. Also I will remind that I am more auditory and Tactile-Kinesthetic student based on my sensory preference. I think my boredom threshold is better now. If I found suitable class for me, I should try learning Japanese again. I know my strength and weakness for learning other languages now, it means close to success learning second language. I am recently concern with German language because it’s related my job and many chances to work with German. To succeed learning German, I definitely research my intelligence and preference deeply.