**My success learning a second language**

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It was my success learning a second language when I was in Beijing, China. At that time, I went to International school, so I had to study not only English but also Chinese. Also it was my first experience in overseas. But even if it was hard time to me, it was my best experience in my life. There are three arguments to support my opinion. The way of learning a second language was different from Korea. It was modern teaching. Also I liked my English Teacher and her teaching ways. The last argument is that affective filter was low due to getting confident on my English ability. I am going to explain more specific to support my arguments with my experiences and details.

First of all, when I studied in Beijing China, the way of learning a second language was quite different from Korea. It was modern teaching. It was not just lecturing or taking notes. There were many group works and discussion. It helped to share idea, knowledge or opinion each other. Although teacher taught students, it was more student-centered. It means that as students participated in class, they could speak more and freely. When I was in Beijing, China, I went to International school. Therefore there were many different country students who were from Italy, USA, Mongolia and others. Therefore I could know about the other countries’ culture and customs. For example during the group discussion, it was about explaining own favorite festival to other students. Before that, I had never known about Thanksgiving, food of Thanksgiving and how they spend. But after I knew that, I liked Thanksgiving, so I have participated in preparing Thanksgiving.

Secondly, I liked my English Teacher. Her name is April. She was not only English teacher but also homeroom teacher until I graduated at middle school. She really cared of students. I liked her teaching skills. Her types of teaching were involver and enabler. She sometimes gave students homework such as researching individually on the different topics. After then, she made groups and let student explaining their research information to other students. It is not just for sharing idea. It also could be teaching others because the student did not have any idea about the other students’ topic. Also when she taught vocabulary and grammar, as using grammar textbook, she demonstrated the form and vocabulary. And then, she made students to make sentences with grammar and vocabulary which studied right before. Because it was not easy to forget. She was not only very honest but also listened well student’s opinion. Also she had a good sense of humor, so during the class, it was not boring and stressful.

Lastly, affective filter was not high. Before I went to International school, I was worried about the conversation, relationship between teachers and other students and my English ability. I had been hard time for about 3 months. After 3 months, I started to listen and speak fluently. Also I liked the environment of classroom. It was not very stressful and teachers encouraged students if students looked like less confident or shorted of ability. So it was motivation to learn English as a second language or improve skills. I could keep trying to improve my English ability as doing assignments. In my case, when I did presentation, even if the topic was easy I was very nervous at starting time. But I tried to do eye-contact and concentrated on presentation. After I finished the presentation, the teacher gave me feedback not only negative but also positive point. It helped me to change my less point and keep positive point. Then finally I got the first place of the presentation. After that, I was really proud of myself, got confident and was not scared of learning something in English.

To sum up, learning a second language is successful to me. As learning English, even if it was hard, I got self-confident and could learn other things in English. Also after I met my English teacher, April I prefer group activities. Although now I am lack of teaching skill, I know how to teach a second language to ESL student is better.. Also as learning English, I found my interest and what I would like work for even if I am young. Therefore I prepare to be English teacher for child or people who want to learn