**TESOL 01:**

**Second language Acquisition Assignment**

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**577 words**

**June 14, 2013**

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I thought in order to acquire a second language well, it is important to expose ourselves to the natural environment to think and use it. In Korea, many parents send their kids to go abroad for the second language acquisition. It put them at a situation of spending a lot of money and time. Is it a good choice or not? We don’t know. But I am sure that we can learn a second language very well in Korea, if we use the right method for teaching it.

Most of my teachers taught me English by the Grammar Translation Method, until I graduated from university. They relied on explaining or lecturing as a way of delivering contents to me. According to traditional teaching style, they talked most of the time and then I listened, concentrated and took notes. When they poured a lot of knowledge into my brain, I just memorized it for exams. I considered that English was one of the lessons rather than language. That was the reason why I could not speak and listen English well even though I was a student who got good grades in the class. At that time, I thought that teaching method seemed to be the appropriate way for me because I needed great records. But, after I went to Finland to attend the international meeting for my work, I changed my mind totally. I could not understand the speeches and talked anything with participants. I got a shock.

From that day, I acknowledged that I should study English in other ways. I looked for the teacher who could teach listening and speaking English here and there. Finally I met the teacher at an English institution. He taught students based on the Audio-Lingual Method with using the script of American drama and news. In the class, he showed the scene of the news or drama and explained briefly situations and new vocabulary. After that, students repeated the sentence several times. He made the students not just repeat but imitate the voice and action of the actor and announcer. In fact it is very hard for Koreans to listen to the American’s saying. They talk very quickly and have a different pronounce structure. Therefore, to mimic their talking and gesture helps students to develop listening skill and understand culture and grammar. Next step is to communicate with each student using the mastering sentences in the scripts and to teach other students as a mentor.

He has a goal to make students improve their English skill enough to conversation with foreigners without going abroad. It requires daily practice and a learning environment to think and use English. He tries to make a best learning environment at institution, set a 1000 hour rule to master English and develop a computer program for repetition with passion and authenticity. When I attend the lesson, I would ensure that I can speak well if I do as learn in the class. I really respect him and he is my model of teacher.

I have experienced two methods of teaching when I learned English. If someone asks me which one is the best theory, I could not tell. Our choice of methodology is not simply a matter of what you believe to be best, but it is also about what is appropriate in a particular place with particular people. I will be a great teacher as the involver and enabler to advanced stages of English acquisition.