In the era of globalization, it is unquestionable that the English language is indispensable. In case of Korea, we start to learn English from third grade in public school and these days even before entrancing into a elementary school, some children who are 3 or 4 years old are educated. Nevertheless, I am not sure almost people in Korea are good at English. In my case, it can be said that it was a failure compared to learning Chinese that I have experienced. In this essay, I will describe my own experience with theories of second language acquisition.

I am 27 years old and I’ve studied about 10 years. To be honest, however, it is still difficult for me to speak English fluently. What are the reasons of this problem? There are various factors of problem that I find after learning ‘English language teaching’ last class. To begin with, I consider it is because of traditional teaching style. When I recall my own teachers at school, almost teachers are lectures or explainer just like conveying information to us. In fact, I loved English class. I had studied hard and I’ve ever taken part in English contest with some students as one of representative of my school when I was a elementary school student. My English teacher was funny and her class is ardent and sincere. She was a entertainer, guide and even a counselor. We did a lot of activities being interesting and effective. We practiced to speak English in every class and discussed a topic sometimes. Now that I think about it, I consider she was a enabler. She was able to use appropriate teaching and techniques to help us learn English as well as actively made a good classroom atmosphere building effective working relationships. I consider she had three core teacher characteristics that help to create an effective learning environment namely, respect, empathy and authenticity.

However, When I was a junior high school student the curriculum and the teaching style of teachers in English class was totally different. I tried to memorize many words and grammar I’ve never seen for test and almost teachers are lecturers or explainers. I partly have personal beliefs to concepts of Krashen’s hypotheses. According to Krashen’s the affective filter hypothesis, it can be prompted by many different variables including anxiety, motivation and stress during language acquisition. In my case, in class, we were so busy noting down something that teachers let us than understanding and thinking. There is no English teacher as a native speaker in my middle and high school. I was getting lost interest of English, self-confidence and motivation. To me, learning English is a real challenge. Although English is language for communication, we had studied English clamping our mouth like a lock. Consequently, my receptive skills are good but, productive skills are still low level among the four basic language skills.

Nowadays, modern classrooms are changed a lot compared to traditional classrooms by traditional teaching as ‘jug’ and ‘mug’. Of course, I agree that the teaching is only one factor in what is learned as well as a positive learning atmosphere isn’t everything. However, I am sure that these factors can make effective lessons for learners and teachers.