**[92\_TESOL] Woikyung Kim (Anna)\_Second Language Acquisition Assignment**

It was 1988 when I met my English teacher who was lack of enthusiasm about teaching English. He didn’t seem to love us at all. Almost of my classmates thought the school to him was just a work place to earn money for his family.

When an English class takes place, he wrote grammatical things and sentences on a chalkboard and let his students note that. And then he explained us what he writes on the board without any gestures and any intonation changes.

In every lesson, he did his job what he has to do as a worker not as a teacher for high school students.

That really made me frustrated and many students started sleeping while he was murmuring. Or we studied another projects like French, Ethics, Science. Because he didn’t say anything or never tried to persuade us stop doing inappropriate behaviors during his lesson. I finally gave up English study at school.

I disliked him very much even until now.

Sadly, I and many classmates had to go to private tutors or institutions to get English education. This was a reality of English education in Korea and still the education environment is existed.

In my opinion, it is no exaggeration to say that English is an essential part of us to live in the global era. We need qualified English skills to communicate with foreign friends even they are Chinese, Russian or French, to go on a business trip or to attend international conferences, symposia, exhibitions.

To meet student’s expectations, my teacher had to understand what we wanted and should have changed his attitude and mind. His old-fashioned teaching methods had driven many young students to the outside of his class and many of them never found a way to get back. He was an explainer sticking to traditional classrooms using only text books and focusing on receptive skills. If he once tried to be an involver or facilitator, we would not hate English.

Not all the teachers were like him. A wonderful teacher I remember was absolutely an involver. She was my friend’s teacher and my friend told me that she was very energetic when it comes to her English education and loved her students. Why I felt she was an active involver, she employed a variety of technologies such as panels, equipments, tools, paper charts. Sometimes she was an enabler that she let the students lead the class to create their idea by themselves. Her teaching methods were very advanced and innovative at that time. I wanted to move to her modern classroom but it was not acceptable.

The best things I remember about her are pop songs. She taught students many pop songs using an audio. And she made students sing songs in front of students. Sing a song in front of many people is not easy but it is an effective way to remember many lyrics. I envied my friend very much.

I knew that I have verbal/linguistic intelligence compared to other intelligences, mathematical, musical, kinesthetic, spatial etc. If my teacher’s classroom was similar to her, I am sure that I would love learning English and my life would be changed. Teachers are very important and sometime they are hero for students in adolescence.