**Second language acquisition assignment**

Welcome to the world of Learning Teaching. But what Learning Teaching is all about? Is it about how well you know about the grammar? Or is it about how fluent you can speak? Or do you have the habit of correcting one’s grammar and sentences?

To tell the truth, I was totally confused and disappointed too on the first day of class. “Grammar is not important; I just want you to make a short sentence.” This was repeated by the teacher during the class. We were taught “Good English” not “Bad English” ever since. My opinions on coming to this class was all about correcting my grammar mistakes and also improve on my listening and speaking skills. Instead, we are encouraged to speak, to participate and to compete the task by our own. Teacher just smiles when she hears good ideas, she just hints but not involving in the discussion. The strangest thing is, she did very little talking, she laughs or nods if it is correct, but no big compliments on who is getting it right. So, how do we learn if she is not talking?

What about the second day of class? I was not so tensed and confused anymore. I would say a bit relaxed? Why? It’s because I realized teaching is about how to guide, to inspire and to motivate the learners!

Looking back to our old days as a young learner at school, all I could recalled now was about the teacher spending most of the time doing endless talking and writing on the black board. During the class, the classroom was so quiet you could even hear the spinning sound of the fan. It was forbidden to talk unless the teacher was over with it. If I have to relate some of the teachers to the class, some teachers were fierce and strict where I had an incident that the teacher threw the white chalk on me in front of other students when I was not getting the answer right. Some teachers were funny and interesting but were the teaching sufficient enough to pass over the knowledge?

We were always labeled as lazy and stupid for not performing well in the marks! And the home works. Tons and tons of them, but why we still not doing well in the marks? They were endless copy of the notes from the black board and the teachers patiently lecturing the whole day but why we were still not well learned?

At school, I may not be the brightest student in the class, but, there was this one English teacher who would bring out the best in me. I would say English was my favorite subject and still it is. And that’s why I usually scored good marks for this particular English subject in those days. In the class she tells us stories, she uses flash card or pictures, and we usually sing and play games too. At that time English was so easy to learn and understand. And each activity leaves a very deep impression on us as well.

My thinking or concept on how to learn has totally changed after I joined the TESOL Learning Teaching program. What I learned was English is not just about grammar or how well you can speak. It’s all about learners encouraged to speak and to complete the task by themselves. Learners become active in the class, and they are encouraged to participate and do the talking instead of the teacher.

So, how do we define a successful teaching? In order to have a successful teaching, it was suggested by Carl Rogers, the American psychologist that we have to comply with these three conditions. They are respect, empathy and authenticity. With these three conditions the learners will be able to learn freely without the fear of making mistakes and be more confident about their abilities. The learning environment will be more positive, progressive and supportive. Learners self-esteemed are built-up and they are responsible for their learning instead of the others. And it’s not the technique that implies in teaching but being able to approach and understand the learners need.

My conclusion on this essay is, I hope in future and even at this beginning, learning is fun when you are well inspired and well guided. To the new generation of learning, let’s put away all those traditional teaching rules. We have to guide them, not just plain teaching them. We have to inspire them not just plain talking to them

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