Second Language Acquisition

97WD
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[You have personal experience of language learning and are familiar with theories of first and second language acquisition. Now you are ready to explore your own ESL teaching beliefs.]

For my case, I had experiences both positive and negative about language learning.
I was failure the first time from the middle school to University in South Korea.
I learned grammar, correct spelling, uninterested lecture etc. So I couldn’t talk other languages like English at that time.
My teacher just checked my grammar, spelling and my pronunciation when I was a
young.
And my personality is a little on the quiet side. So I didn’t try to study and talk the other languages anymore.

(But I need another language too much during working in the company. My mind changed and then I went to CANADA.)
Fortunately, I got good experiences during stayed in Toronto Canada during about 5months.

I met good ESL foreigner’s teachers. They really listened when I was used to talk the strange words and to speak incomplete sentences. And teachers had more activity in the lecture.

Nowadays, I am ready to explore my own ESL teaching.

First of all, I would like to know Characteristics of adult learners, traditional vs Modern classroom, teacher types (Explainer, involver and enabler) etc.

1, Characteristics of adult learners

 I should know about the characteristics of adult learners at the first time.
 I think the learners have 7 intelligences which are verbal-Linguistic, logical- Mathematical, visual/spatial, bodily-kinesthetic, Musical, Interpersonal, Intrapersonal. Add two more things, age, gender etc.

I should know student personalities that how to teach, the students to understand how the lectures.

The teacher fills the students up about the lack parts.

2, Traditional vs Modern classroom.

Traditional Classroom is strict, quiet, no interesting, Jug and Mug, having teacher-centered learning in the classroom and many punishments.
On the other hand, Modern classroom is small size classroom, more activities, having student – centered learning in the classroom and more comfortable.

For my case, I was failure to learn the other language about traditional classroom as I was a student. I didn’t ask frequently also the teacher didn’t control very well in the class.

I think it is better modern classroom than Traditional class room.

3, Teacher types (Explainer, involver and enabler)

The explainer type teachers know their subject matter very well, but have limited knowledge of teaching methodology. This kind of teacher relies mainly on explaining or lecturing as a way of conveying information to the students.
The teacher’s lessons can be very entertaining, interesting and informative. The students are listening, perhaps occasionally answering question and perhaps notes, but are mostly not being personally involved or challenged.

The second, the involver type teacher who is also knows the subject matter that is being dealt with. However, the teacher is also familiar with teaching methodology.
They are able to us appropriate teaching and organizational procedures and techniques to help teacher students learn about the subject matter. This teacher is trying to involve the student activity and puts a great deal of effort into finding appropriate and interesting activities that will do this. While still retaining clear control over the classroom and what happens in it.

The enabler, the third kind of teacher is confident enough to share control with the learners or perhaps to hand it over to them entirely. Decisions made in her classroom may often be shared or negotiated. This teacher knows about subject matter and about methodology, but also has an awareness of how individuals and groups are thinking and feeling within her class.
Sometimes, this will involve her in less traditional ‘teaching’. The teacher may become a guide or a counsellor or a resource of information when needed.
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Finally, I would like to learn and to have about effective teaching which are patient, honest, really listens to his/her students, communicates clearly, be enthusiastic, knows the subject matter well, has a good sense of humor, empathizes with student’s problems, well organized, shows respect, gives clear, positive feedback . Add I should know the involver, enabler in the Modern classroom.