What Is Effective in Learning English?

98th WK TESOL

SUYOUNG PARK (Hannah)

“What we learn with pleasure we never forget.”

-Alfred Mercier-

Most Koreans study English over ten years and then we are learning English continuously. But we can’t speak well though we have various skills, knowledge, and abilities about English. ‘Why do we have difficulties acquiring a language, English?’, ‘What is things we need to learn languages now?’ As a student who I want to be an English teacher, I’d like to give necessary tips to my students in the short future. I will find ways we can learn languages more effectively as well. I would like to arrange my experience and thoughts based on my TESOL class, Module 1.

The first I’d like to say is English learning environments are important. I’ve studied and learned English over ten years in public and private school. I’ve exposed various English-speaking classroom in school. There are limited English-speaking environments in public school. I studied English in traditional classroom in Korea. Traditional class presents one teacher-many students in a classroom and students are understanding and underlining points in the textbook. Traditional lesson made me know a lot of word, raise reading skills, and understand what speakers say in conversations. However, I couldn’t know how to speak in any situations. Since I focus on my English skill for only exams in my schooldays, I couldn’t speak any words at the time In under English-speaking circumstances. But I went through a new experience when I learned ESL in the philippines. There were many people who studied English for many reasons, teaching, business, exams, and communicational skills. We should be divided with a few classes according to the reasons. And my teachers made English-speaking situations in all classes. It was much more effective for me to know how to speak English. Now I know the people want to speak English should learn the language in various ways – activities, role-playing, games, and discussions in English-speaking environments.

Secondary, I’d like to mention more effective teachers in our English class. My teacher in the ESL class bring my class to remembrance. When I took last TESOL class, I learned three types of teachers – explainer, involver, and enabler. My teacher, Ken in my ESL class is not only an involver but also an enabler rather than an explainer. For example, he was an involver in the small group class. He let my classmates and me watch short video clips then made us pair up two or three. We should participate in many activities, debating, and explaining about the video. Though I didn’t know why we should do that ones, those activities reminded me of useful expressions and dialogs at ordinary times. In contrast with my class in Korea, my small group class in the Philippines emphasized to be a person who can make direct action. Now I feel “In doing we learn” is correct saying because of my experience. Being free myself free from Korean style classroom, I was more active and energetic there. Among different types of teachers, I think teachers can change their roles to deliver their knowledge more efficient, depending on the number of students, interests of students, and reasons for learning English.

If someone asks me questions about learning English, I’d like to recommend to look for proper environments and teachers to attain goals you want. Good English-speaking surroundings help a learner to speak useful expressions in real-situations. Good teachers also help students to learn English with proper methods. I am a person who wants to be a wise teacher throughout my TESOL class. I hope to become a teacher that can apply for my teaching styles based on my students. I’d like to be an involver or enabler that can give my students influence and set proper places for them. I want to help my students to learn English in English-speaking conditions as well.

References

Jim Scrivener (2011*), Learning Teaching*, Location: Andrian Underhill