Title: The requirement to be a good teacher

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As a global language, English proficiency has become a requirement to get a good job these days. For this reason, many students spend much time and money to take private English courses, and use diverse channels or sources to facilitate their learning, but the outcome seems not that satisfying. To meet the satisfaction of second language acquisition, I believe that analyzing the past and current study environment and providing effective guidelines are very important to increase the learning effectiveness. In this regard, I would like to tell my belief on second language teaching derived from my personal learning experience.

From my experience, the traditional classroom is not effective in terms of language learning. When I was in the second grade at Myeongshin Girls’ High School, the English class was just a one-way lecture, and the teacher with 15 years of experience was a typical explainer. There was no interaction between the teacher and the students, but it was just a mug and jug type of lecture, which, I felt, was very boring and ineffective. As a result, most students including me did not pay attention on the class, and were not motivated to study at all. As I remember, I have not done eye contact with him for the whole year. Moreover, the class was receptive-based, mostly focusing on teaching listening and reading, which were the easy elements to numerically evaluate. Therefore, I did not get many chances to speak or write in English in class, and had to take a private lesson as an extra.

On the other hand, modern classroom seems more suitable for providing effective environments in acquiring second language. At my college, the University of Catholic, Korea, I experienced interactive class involvement. The lectures were more productive-based, and the lecturer led his students to engage and prepare for their class autonomously. He also provided them with group tasks so that they could work in pairs, help and teach each another. All he did was explaining the tasks, and giving a little help when they needed it. To complete the tasks, the students had to think, organize, and self-study, which helped them engage the class very much, and study autonomously. Considering the level of improvement in speaking and writing skills at the time, I believe that the way I learnt at college is more effective and appropriate in regard of learner retention.

In conclusion, the effective teaching techniques are greatly helpful in terms of second language acquisition. Free from the traditional classroom where learners are not engaged in interactive activities, I think teachers should be an enabler as well as a guide to create autonomous learning environment both in and out of classroom. When it comes to the necessity of English in this international world, second language learning is not just a something that we are only required to do at school, but it became an essential mean to make our life better. Therefore, providing effective learning conditions, and being familiar with effective teaching methods are the requirement to be a good teacher.