My experience for a foreign language and how it will affect me as a teacher

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Nowadays, it is normal for people to approach a foreign language. Honestly, I approached English as a second language because I wanted to get a job and also experience a lifestyle other than in Korea. Learning English was always difficult for me during my years in Korea because I felt like everything was forced in school and after-school tutor sessions. Also, English is a language that is very hard to accomplish if not exposed to it for long time. However, after studying aboard in an English speaking country I experienced a new way of learning a new language. As a result, the two different learning systems gave me very opposing experiences that will affect me when I teach a foreign language myself.

First of all, I was first taught English ever since I was in elementary school. Fortunately, English became an official subject when I first attended school, so I began to have English classes at school and also after school academy. To be honest, the school system did not meet the standards because it was taught very strictly. As a child, not knowing what is going on and the teacher going in a rapid speed, discouraged my learning, so I had to learn English out of school in order to understand my teachers lecture. I realized back in the time that my school and academy teacher both taught harshly. Most of the time they tried to teach more than what the kids could understand.

In addition, they never asked the students whether they understood the material or not. However, the strict teaching did help me to memorize many English words because there were punishments if words were not memorized. Later when I become a teacher, these experiences will help me be a more understanding and helpful teacher. For example, before I even start my classes, I will try to find out each students skill and English level so that I can make a lesson plan that will be suitable for each student. Additionally, with a caring heart, I will make sure that each student does clearly understand. Moreover, back when I took lectures in America, the teachers talked very slowly so I was able to understand very well. So I will take this to heart and try to carry out an entertaining class by first of all talking slowly but also using multimedia materials and visual aid to help students understand clearly and not be bored. Lastly, I will encourage students to speak English in class to enhance their speaking skills and not only reading and writing.

Learning a new language is a difficult experience, but having a supportive and understanding teacher does help a lot. Since I know the pain and gain of a student learning a new language, I will be able to be a teacher that could encourage and support a student.