REPORT 1

<My Experience Learing English>

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**My Experience Learning English**

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Nowadays Korean adults tend to yearn for the rural life as a ruralist by leaving metropolis, Seoul. Even if I don't like not that much the rural life and nature because I'm the very ambitious and go-ahead person who is workaholic rather than easy-going, I understand why the method of ‘desuggestopedia’ which principles emphasize learning is facilitated in a cheerful environment. It’s true that some special place and time has had a great effect on us both mentally and emotionally. In my case, whenever I try to retrospect my experience learning English, the scenery and nature of Ithaca where I went for taking English training course of foreigners in Cornell Univ. poped up with it. So I would like to talk about my experiences learning English with the special cosy place, Ithaca in my memories. And also I would like to talk about my learning experiences of English in my childhood and my school days.

First of all, I would like to say my learning experience of English in my childhood. The learning experience and situations of English in my childhood is similar to Total Physical Response. From my childhood till now, I love to watch TV and Movie in English. Especially in my childhood, my favorite thing to do on weekends was watching the animation series of Warner Brothers from 7 o'clock on channel # 2 of AKFN(American Forces Korean Network). I just had heard and watched English conversation situations(actor’s motions) of routine life from American broadcasting program usually through AKFN in my childhood of 70’s without any saying, which I was familiar to conversations by only pictures of it not reading caption, just seeing.

After I got into school, usually I’ve learned English as a second language almost based on the method of the Grammar-Translation and the Audio-Lingual. At that time, my mental state of learning English is usually in the affective filter hypothesis. Even if I was good at grammar I’m full of anxiety in English class because teacher always tested us and if we were incorrect, we are punished.

Later after I got into the Yonsei Univ. in Korea, I had had a chance to visit USA in 20 years old for taking language courses in Cornell Univ. is Ithaca’s in New York of USA where is also the first place that I had ever visited of foreign countries.

The nature of Ithaca, which made my learning environment very special and comfortable which is wide and deep forest besides endless natural horizon and long gradual slope was very helpful of my learning English in the aspect of desuggestopedia, emphasizing natural and cosy environment of learners. Mostly the language course consisted of the learning contents mostly through Task based Language Teaching method, which had lots of activities and tasks to learn and the routine life there had also lots of activities like going to winery with our neighbors, which was good for my improving English abilities.

Nowadays my learning experience of English mostly is based on meeting foreign people, especially Chinese, in Korea, usually by self correcting. Nowadays when I travel to Korea, I easily can find and meet Chinese tourists whose visiting rate of Korea is increasing sharply recently. Whenever I meet in Chinese and talk to each other I communicate with them in English. Last year, I travel to Jeju island of Korea which nature is such as seaside, Halla mountains and tropical forests which is rare in the mainland of Korea and I also had had a chance to show the direction in Jeju with the brief introduction about Jeju to one of Chinese tourists as a passerby. At that time, actually I had learned English a lot, I had to make myself clear in English to her whose English was not good as far as I know.

In conclusion, my experience learning English is mostly through the Grammar-Translation and the Audio-Lingual methods in my middle school and high school. Additionally, in my youth watching people’s doing on TV program in English and character’s doing of TV animations consisted of my learning experience of English, mostly through Total Physical Response methods because I cannot speak and even understand English and I just watched what people and characters doing on TV. In adulthood, I had learned English in Cornell Univ. through the Task based Language Teaching method and also its cosy nature helped my learning English in the aspect of desuggestopedia.