

The saints I met when learning English

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TESOL 116th

As one of the English teachers, I have tried to be an effective English teacher. So I have tried to respect students' opinions, be in their shoes, and show them the way I am. However, even though I tried to be an effective teacher, some students were not motivated easily. Therefore, I have been wondering what prevents students from learning English. After taking chapter 1, Language & Learning, I finally found the reason why some students did not be easily motivated when they learned English. The affective filter have stopped them from learning English. In the other words, students who had bad experience have obstacles when they learned English. As a result, I think positive learning experience is very important when students learn English. Looking at my students learning experiences, I had opportunities to look back my language learning experiences I had. If I am asked about whether learning experiences of yours are good or not, then I confidently say "yes". Therefore, I am going to explain why my learning experiences are successful.

First, when I was a middle school student, my private tutor's non-judgmental attitude was a very successful experience for learning English. Whenever I made some mistakes, I was afraid of being scolded. However, she said to me that it was okay for me to make some errors and I did not have to take them so serious. Also she complimented me whenever she found my strong point related with learning English. Those positive experience had me realized that I had some talent about learning English.

Second, when I was a high school student, there was an English teacher from Canada. She also gave me successful experiences about learning English. When teaching students, she always gave us okay signs about making mistakes. In addition to this, she was very active involver. Therefore, she involved students in the class activities. Using lots of authentic materials, she attracted students'

attention easily. That made me know that learning English could be interesting. Those positive experiences caused me to enjoy learning English in my high school life.

Lastly, when I was an undergraduate student, there was an American teacher called Mrs. Gale, who was one of the English teachers in my university. She taught us how to write essay in English well. One of the most impressive things when I was taught by her was her respecting attitude. Even though almost 80s, she did not treat me as a child, but as an adult. Also not giving me a direct order, she helped me write and organize essays by myself. In addition to respecting me as a coworker, she showed us the way she was. Because she was almost 80s, sometimes she made some mistakes such as misspelling. Not embarrassed about her mistakes, she admitted what she made mistakes confidently. This event encouraged me to break the fear to make mistakes. She was the most effective teacher I had ever met.

In conclusion, because of those good teachers I mentioned previously, I could experience positive language learning. In addition, by imitating my mentors' good teaching attitude and techniques, I want to be another effective teacher. I hope my students to break the affective filter and then have positive language learning experience through me.

WORD COUNT: 554