

### Learning Second Language Practically

Back in 2011, by the age of 22, I had been moved to USA to study abroad. At the first time, everything was amazing. New place, new people, new friends, everything was new, except myself. Before I transfer to college, I had studied at Language System International, which was located in Placentia, OC. I had been studied for about 3months with them, and it was a good experience. I did not pay attention to the actual class though.

In my opinion, language learning can be enhanced with experiences in life. I can obviously say that class I took at the place was really boring. I just wanted to take a test and get the required grade, so that I can transfer to the college. By the way, I had to take a class at least for 3months to get the chance for transferring, so I had no choice. Quite embarrassing to say this, but I was not a good student. I skipped so many classes with my friends and we hung out together. Having lunch and coffee, go to shopping, etc. We were just having fun. We all came from different countries, so we had to use English to talk, and that was a really great part. We naturally learned English by speaking and listening to each other. Of course grammar in the conversation was not right, but we understood each other so it was fine. We spoke, and we learned. Of course, we got improved fast.

As I said before, actual class was really boring. I barely remember what I learned from class room. By the way, they had so much fun events out of the class room. The most impressive event was a trip for Long beach. We went there after having lunch. Shopping district was really huge, so we separated to some groups and had our own time. It was so much fun. We got some food from food trucks, had some conversation, shopped the goods that we like, and we gathered at the sandy beach before sun went down. We started campfire and sing along with the sound of guitar, had some sausages and marshmallows. It was a really good memory. Everybody tried to have conversation even they were not good at English. We tried again and again. I cannot say I remember every word that we shared, but it was so much better than sitting at the classroom and

study for hours.

Of course, learning by book and lecture can bring different kinds of benefit, but I think it's much harder to make it practical. For example, even if someone got the degree from college, it does not mean that they can practically use their knowledge for productive way. If they don't have any interests in learning, it would make people stressful and make knowledge useless. Learning and trying do not mean doing. It might help a lot easier to do something so I could call them preparation, but for the language, I think practical approach would be so much better way for people who wants to learn English. Language can be defined as knowledge, but knowledge and understanding is totally different concept. I would prefer to understand second language even if it takes longer time, and I would teach students with the same concept that I have about English.

So many people in Korea think that English is the most important language to learn for their life. Yes I agree with that, but I do not know why people only get fed up with the TOEIC or other tests score. Of course, the reason is simple. It is the proof that they are good at it, but in my opinion, it seems a little bit awkward. I would like to talk about this issue, but it is not the issue that I am writing for now so I would sum it up here. The point is this. Second language should be learned practically for better understanding.