

My SLA Experiences

I was born in Seoul, Korea. My family consists of 3, my parents and me. My parents are all Korean and they cannot speak any other languages except for Korean. Naturally, I was affected by my parents who could only speak Korean, so I could only speak Korean in my childhood. Korean is my mother tongue and somebody calls it language1 same as L1.

After I went to the elementary school, I began to study English at first time. At that time, I can remember that the classroom was entirely traditional compared to the modern classroom these days. My English teacher was totally kind of the explainer. He focused on explaining the concept of the each chapter in the book, and the students had to learn by rote, and it was really monotonous and boring to me. There were so many TTT(Teacher Talking Time) rather than having STT(Student Talking Time). I can say it was my first failure experience of SLA.

After graduation of my elementary school, it was beginning to study English really hard to enter a good university. It was like a war among the students in Korea and we were all rivals to each other. I also had to study English really hard because English is the main subject and it largely affected to go to the nice university. I have studied English obligatorily every 3 hours a day until I took the exam for university. The main focus of the English study was grammar, lexis, reading and translation, and listening. There were also no chances to speak

English to natives and English was just one method to enter a university. I have got an exam of university and I could get the highest grade of English subject so I could go to the university that I want. Even though, the study of English was not practical to be able to communicate to native speakers, I think it was really successful that I could be the winner of the exam.

My major was also English at my university. Thankfully, I could get the many part time jobs as an English teacher in the English academies. I have taught my knowledge of English to my students. During the process, I could get the more exact understanding of English. The students who I have taught were middle school students to high school students. Their levels of English were really various. I remember they were from the entirely elementary levels to really advanced levels. During the class, I have tried to give them more questions about CCQ rather than ICQ because there were no real activities in my classroom. I think they were following me very well at that time and it made me feel rewarded. This experience was absolutely successful and I can't forget it.

After graduation to university, I have studied Toeic Speaking Test to get a job. At that time, I went to English speaking academy to study. Every time I went there, I have to prepare Realia because there were many practical activities. The teacher was the type of the enabler. She was good facilitator of the class. First time of the class, we did Icebreaker to get to know each other, and it was interesting. The teacher gave us many useful feedbacks and I could get the score which I want to

get. It was successful.

I have learned English since I was in elementary school. It has been a long time. I have described my SLA experiences of English for my essay TESOL. Even though, I haven't been to English country for studying, I have tried to get the real SLA for a long time. Our country is typically EFL environment for the many English learners. I hope we can study English in the better environment like ESL which is casually used English in our common life.