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129th Weekday Class

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**Valuable Experience in Mobile Phone English lessons**

Like many other English learners in Korea, I had been taught in the transmitting way for 6 years from school. I didn’t even notice that the way wasn’t effective. That’s because the goal is to get a high score in English and not skills to communicate with others. Teachers tried to give knowledge only for tests and it was totally “Jug and mug” teaching. When it comes to rapport between students and teachers, students were not familiar with teachers because teachers chose “chalk and talk” way and explainer. At that time, the classes were just lectures. Students studied inductively – reading & listening. When it comes to evaluate the learners, they only focus on the paper-delivered test result.

Since then, my English skill has been much improved with “mobile phone English lessons”

For learners, there are big differences compared to the traditional teaching.

At first, it was goal-oriented and relevance-oriented. For me, English was needed to communicate with other co-workers abroad, such as conference, presentation and so on. So I had a strong motivation. And it was not happened once a month. I had to use English everyday at work as writing an email or conference calls twice a week. Since then, English became a big deal to connect with others.

Second, it was autonomous & self motivated. The lessons were based on textbook but learners could choose the materials for every class. So I asked them about e-mail writing or expression from the work etc. So I had been trying to think the better methodology for the classes. For me, I had made several sentences as preview, and discussed about it with the teachers, they corrected or suggested and I could ask them back. I could learn as the productive way – speaking and writing.

Teachers for sure, knew the knowledge about my questions and they helped me as a “guild”. They didn’t try to control me or make me to study textbooks only, if I don’t like it. Actually, there were various teaching methods – reading, discussion, role play (get into the real situation) etc. They could be explainer time to time but they focused on their students and they could be “enabler” as well. The main reason to indicate “enabler” is that I could choose the teaching methodology totally.

Third, the best part was to connect with teachers. It has to be strong rapport because it’s 1:1 talking. So the class of atmosphere was totally dependent on how the students lead the class and relationship between students and teachers. Teachers mostly encouraged me to keep talking and those were good experiences compared to the traditional teaching. Previously, they rather made me not to talk and discourage me by comparing to others. The another reason to keep good relationship is, there were no test to be related my career, or else. The tests existed to evaluate the students’ skills itself.

As final thought, I strongly recommend mobile phone English for students to have bad experiences by traditional teaching method. To be successful, several conditions are needed - with the strong goal and productive participation from the students, teachers’ knowledge, their role for enabler and good rapport between learners and teachers. After that experiences, I became more confident and relaxed in speaking English and found my own methodology to study English.