141th WD

Shine (Kim Bit-na)

My Second-Language Learning Style

There are many second-language learners all around. I also have learnt English for a long time but still, I’m not a perfect master now. For effective learning, I think the teacher have to understand individual learning differences because ability of learners varies with their personalities, preferences, previous learning experiences and levels in language skills. Anyway, I’m going to think about learning style for studying second-language.

## The first steps in English

 First, today’s my reason for needing English is my new start and job as a teacher. In addition, I want to improve my speaking skill and my confidence. In the learner modes, there is ‘Visual’, ‘Auditory’, ‘Kinesthetic’. Among them, I think I’m visual or kinesthetic learner. I was so hard when I only learn English with audio tape. However, I could remember best by watching movies, looking graphics and pictures. So, I prefer visual to logical in multiple intelligence. And what’s more, speaking to a foreign customer with gestures is effective when I worked at the movie theater. In other words, I have a bodily or kinesthetic intelligence, too. It is the thing that I can do with someone to learn. For example, practicing physical exercise, making up a cooperative game, construct a model, and hands-on learning activities. In the eight intelligences, In addition, there is Verbal, Logical, Visual, Musical, Kinesthetic, Interpersonal, Intrapersonal, and Naturalist Intelligence.

## A change in language skills

There is Beginner, False Beginner, High Beginner, Inter-Immediate, Immediate, Upper-Immediate, Advanced in steps of language skills. Of course, I first was ‘Beginner’. However, there were a lot of changes about teaching and learning skills. And as time went by, I became to speak slowly with frequent repetition and use write simple material on familiar topics.

In the past, most teachers required that the students should have passive attitude and used to apply grammar-centered education. Moreover, the tradition teaching was a one-way lecture without communicating students because the way was demanded only receptive skills of students like reading and writing. So, the class was boring and limited when I was high school.

However, modern teaching is somewhat different. Students in the class, For example, have group works, share opinions, play activities, communicate each other and participate role-playing. In cultural subject about ‘Global English Business’, when I was sophomore, I used to participate group works and maintain a form of desks with classmate. And then we could talk about our dialogue and story. The teacher encouraged students, gave us opportunity for speaking English. In addition, the teacher often gave an essay assignment. While writing about my think or future, I could get effectively ability to express my opinion in English.

## The key of success to learn English

 There is ‘Explainer’, ‘Involver’, ‘Enabler’ in teacher type. Among them, I prefer ‘Enabler’ to ‘Explainer’. This is because I think it is multiplayer such as counselor, guider, motivator, and leader. As a learner, I feel interesting in teacher’s active role and I get self-esteem or achievement about our study.

Next, let’s think about learner retention. It is equal to memory. There is a diagram that show how well students remember what they are taught based on what technique the teacher uses. The bottom of seven levels is lecture. But among them, teaching, in other words, mentoring others occupies a high percent. And I agree the result. I could learn and memorize contents better after teaching of my friends. I used to give a quiz about English words to them. While studying together, I think it is better than studying alone.

Actually, to learn second language acquisition, the most important thing is experiential learning for me. I have been to Qingdao with my younger sister at six months ago. At that time, we walked around without smartphone. So, when I went to the restaurant in that, we used to try to speak the Chinese language with pocket book. It was so difficult to convey to the natives our intention. However, the way was effective for me. And now, I remember rhythm or feelings of language. It is because I think the acquisition-learning hypothesis is effective and convince than many different things. And lastly, the best way to teach a second language is to help students to ‘acquire’ the language instead of just ‘learning’ it.

Anyway, I think that example is better than explain. And to learn something, it is important to understand a learning style of details.

Word count: 741