**My Second Language Acquisition**

TESOL 141 WD

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Learning a English as a second language was difficult to me. I have spent lots of time and money to learn it but still I don’t have confidence and I’m not good at English as much as I want to be good at it.

When I remind my old days, most of all, I want to talk about my teachers.

I met my best teacher in the high school. She taught Korean Grammer and was very humorous and interacted with students well. She was friendly and her class was helpful to prepare for the test. She gave us team projects and made us discuss each other. I was a positive student. She was a teacher of involver. She helped us to increase the motivation and had good rapport in class.

My worst teacher was a financial management professor in the university. He just read a textbook and Not only didn’t eye contact but also write on the board in the whole time. It was difficult to concentrate his class so I usually noted his words but it was difficult to understand what he talked. He has a explainer teaching style. There was no chance to talk to me in the class. That’s why I couldn’t remember well after class. Consider the retention rates for various teaching techniques now I can understand why I forgot easily. If a student talk a lot ,the retention rate is increased.

I first started learning English when I was 10 years old. I learned alphabetical order and short conversations and I was interested in learning English. I had a strong motivation but there weren’t sufficient levels at the Academy in my neighborhood. So I study with adults in a conversation class because there wasn’t beginner class for child. My mother thought it will develop my listening skill but it wasn’t helpful. That’s why I quitted that class in a short time and studied English with a book at home.

I was a auditory learner. So I usually read with sounds. And It’s easy to memorize. I recited out loud with rhythm. And I preferred listening to dialogue or stories in CD. It was more interesting than just reading a book.

After entering in the middle school, I had learned grammar and reading skills only at a school. I could usually understand well in lesson and remember teacher’s explanation easily. School teachers didn’t consider the student’s level so there were mixed levels students. Teachers taught in a very traditional way. I sometimes felt bored. They usually taught bossy and all of them are explainers. As a learning theory of Stephen Krashen that was a conscious acceptance of knowledge. It was certainly insufficient to develop communicative competence.

I learned knowledge by rote and just listen and memorize. But I had a high motivation so I studied hard to enter a university. I remember there were some students who want relaxed and like to chat and they didn’t study hard. If a teacher’s teaching style was a enabler, more students could concentrated well.

After that I have studied English in the Academy for several years. I had verbal/linguistic intelligence more than other intelligences. That’s why I keep studying after being an adult voluntarily. I wanted to develop my speaking and writing skills(productive skills) ,but I was afraid to make mistakes and felt anxiety. It was an obstacle to obtain fluency. I only used simple words and sentence at first and later I was an intermediate level student. But it took more effort to develop ability balanced in language skills. Once I try to study Phone English and gradually I learned natural order of acquisition. It was a man-to-man conversation so I could overcome my nervousness. It was helpful to me. Even though for a long time I attempted various kinds of ways to study English , I am not satisfied with my English speaking ability. I think I didn’t have chance to go abroad to learn and It was very restricted ways to learn a language.

According to Krashen , learners acquire parts of language in a predictable order. So in the future I will teach my students to start by introducing language concepts that are easier ones and then use more difficult concepts. I will consider all three kinds of students-visual, auditory ,kinesthetic learners. And I try to be an enabler as a teacher.