TESOL MODULE 1 LANGUAGE AND LEARNING

Second Language Acquisition Assignment

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Effective teaching is very important because teaching is based on helping educational progress from one level to another in a more social interactive environment and to get the approach right to get students to be independent learners. From my personal experience of learning foreign language in Australia, the result of the modern teaching approach is very rewarding. It is, in fact, much more effective than the traditional, grammar focused approach of teaching I had experienced before in Korea.

During the process of learning my second language in Korea, several written tests were administered in order to level-up progress. By having a good memory, I was able to achieve satisfactory results and quite capable of passing these tests. However, using that language effectively in a real-world setting was near impossible as I soon discovered while spending my student life in Australia. All the memorising of extensive word lists and grammatical order did not make me a good speaker of the target language. What I remember some teachers in Korea most of them taught in traditional way. They are mostly like an explainer. This form is similar to lecturing. This is the 'jug and mug' theory of learning where the teacher is the full jug and the teacher's job is to pour knowledge from the full jug to the empty mug. These kind of teaching method involved learning to read, and developing the ability to think conceptually. They did not provide the ability to communicate with the locals, leaving me floundering with my acquired foreign language skills.

Compare to the traditional teaching type in Korea, my experience of learning English in Australia was very modern and much more enjoyable. I felt interested in students working in groups together. I was not accustomed to making a speech in public. As chance would have it, collaborating allowed me to talk among each other and listen to all view point of discussion and assignment, and it helped me a lot communicate with others. Leadership, friendship, and my English skills were developed simultaneously due to the form of high STT(Student Talking Time) during drama class in high school.

Sometimes conventional blocks just didn't work as every international student was different and they all had their problematic subjects. The concept of EEL class was that an in-depth session of a subject could be acquired by simply having a whole lesson of English for ESL learners. At EEL class, teachers tried to help each students to study and learn what is the most difficult for us both personally and educationally. Teachers from EEL class were enablers and very open minded about international students. They gave us enough explanations and constructive feedback whenever we were dealing with difficulties. It made it more convenient for us as we could focus on one thing while in school. EEL lessons were more in-touch with international students and gave focused learning English.

In my view, a modern teaching procedure will lead to effective learning, that's why it is very important for a teacher to understand and use applicable method of teaching.