**My Language Learning Experience**

148th WD Hayang 1st Essay

I had learned how to speak English at an academy for around a year. That is one of the best class that I have ever taken. The way how teacher lead the class was totally different from what I had had before. It was really interesting for me and I could enjoy learning. And it worked so well for me to develop my English speaking skills. I was entirely obsessed with it throughout the class. And there are some reasons why I loved it a lot and what made me felt really satisfied with it.

First of all, his teaching style was absolutely ‘involver’. He seemed to have studied various types of teaching method. He did his best for preparing the class every single day and he brought new subjects to the class. He suggested a couple of expression for the students to learn this time and brought many things related to the expression to show us. He explained what each wards or expressions means when necessary but he really wanted students to guess what it means and catch the way how to use the expression through materials. He always asked the students to answer questions and keep making sounds all the time. And I think this kind of teaching style made the class more effective. A tons of people stuck up in the class room and the class lasted for an hour and a half without taking a break. So many people might easily feel bored and doze off if he was just an explainer. And oppositely, if he make those many students to do almost of things just by themselves as an enabler, I think they won’t get any expression exactly and even if they get to know something, it will take pretty much time.

Second, he used various teaching techniques during the class and I think that it really fit on learner retention. First, he always show us video clips of soap opera, animation, movie, and etc. relating to the expression to make students fully understand the meaning, how to use in what situation. Second, he asked the students form 4-5 people groups and practice speaking with helping each other. Students shared what they understood about the expression with their members and could listen to how other people use it. In addition, teacher put certain students who had been taking the class longer time than others as a helper into each group. Those students should study and practice harder for helping members. These teaching techniques- Audio-visual, Cooperative learning and Teaching/ Mentoring others are known as effective ways to help students remember well what they learn. And it really worked on students. When we used some expressions, we naturally recalled some scene of what we had seen during the class or how other students explained of it during the group study and then easily spoke out. I had also been a helper of the study group for a while, I could remember what I had explained to my members once much more than other things.

But the class also left a little part to be desired. The thing was that around 100 people have 100 different levels. Some students didn’t know how to speak English even in a short, simple sentence. There were also some students that can say almost what they want to express and just want to develop their skill to much higher level. But the teacher just tried to lead them all from the beginner to the advance in only one class. One day the content was too difficult for the beginner to understand, but sometimes it was too easy to inspire the advanced. Actually I think it is adequate for someone who has enough knowledge about speaking English but just can’t use it in real conversation somehow. But for higher level? I don’t think I can say.

Furthermore, the class mood was so lively and active. Teacher always asked students say loudly with strong voices while coping conversations from videos. We should try to imitate not only what it’s saying, but also the face expression, gesture and everything. He even turned up the music and we sang a song along on our feet with moving body a little. Actually it was really suit on my taste. That’s because I have high Musical and Tactile/ Kinesthetic Intelligence so it was really fun and helpful. But some students felt uncomfortable and even a little nervous to join the class. They might have pretty tough time throughout the class. To let students ease their mind is also important part. So I think it could be less effective part of the class.

His class was not perfect for every students. But for me, I want to say it was almost perfect for me. That’s because my goal was to have confidence to speak English when I started to take his class. After taking the class for a few months, I found myself to speak English without any anxiety even though I still had lots of errors in my wards. I can say that my life with English got entirely changed through his class. During the essay, it reminded me that it’s really hard to make the class really useful for all the students. And I figured out how much efforts he made for his class. Most of all, he was so enthusiastic. And that’s what I select my priority of teaching. So now I am feeling more thankful for him. Very lucky to having his class. I wanted to be a teacher like him.