158th WK\_Eric

1st Essay\_ Think about my language learning experience

This is a story of my experience for language learning. It was about 20 years ago when I was a freshman in university and I was majored in Mechanical & Automotive Engineering at that time. English was essential but I would like to learn more foreign languages just like Germany or Japanese because I thought German and Japan were leading country for automotive area. In the meantime, I suddenly had a chance to join Free Japanese Intro Session outside of my university and I decided to begin Japanese course for 1 year.

I remember the Japanese course was focused on all categories of reading, listening, speaking & writing activities. In addition, class time was more flexible than other academy classes. For example, my class was ‘Beginner’ course and class time was 1 hour a day & 3 days a week. I could join it in the morning or in the evening. Because daily program had 4 times as same lecture and it seemed to be considered for both college student & salary man for their available time. So I could attend it although I have another schedule in the morning or in the evening. In addition, there was 1 more lecture every weekend and it was revival session of the week for the student who was absent for the week class.

When I had a first class, my teacher was beautiful and active for every student. She prepared a lot of pictures and cards for the class when a specific words or sentences were introduced. And she let the students have a partner in the classroom to speak each other for a specific topic or quiz. It was a kind of communication and I could remember it well. The lecture was more and more interesting and I joined weekend class, so my beginner level was more and more improved. Currently 20 years passed, but I can remember basic words, sentences and speaking from the class. It must be right that I met a good teacher and the lecture and class was helpful for me. Because she was not focused on Explain and involved the students to be communicated with visual tools and experienced things from TV or well-known things for most of people.

To think about the Japanese teacher more, she was good but something was unhelpful. Her lecture pattern was always same and she was lack of humor in class time. 3 or 4 months passed for the course, I was bored and my interesting was getting lower. There are 3 kinds of teachers in the book ‘Learning Teaching’ by Jim Scrivener. The explainer, The involver and the enabler. She may be in the middle of The involver and The enabler. At that time, many teachers in school were The explainer. They don’t think about students and only focused on explanation from the texts. So students in the classroom likely to be in sleep mode or cannot concentrated on the lecture because they don’t keep the teacher’s message in mind and it results in boring time.

To summary my story, I already thought it that only explain is not helpful for student. Good teacher lead the class and let the student be involved to think about himself or their experience. And the class should be active to be communicated with each other between Teacher & Students or Students each other. I’m sure Communicated information or message will remain logger and will helpful to students for learning languages.