**How I learn English &**

**Teaching second language effectively**

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My first language is Korean and second language is English. Reason for learning English is to speak what I want and to talk about everyday little things like the actors in American drama. Although, later on, I studied English just to survive in the states.

After the high school, I took courses in UK for 6 months and then I worked in N.Y for a year. Before I went to UK I learned elementary English from a teacher who had a style of rather explaining things, Explainer-style teacher. And then I try to figure out, how can I improve my English and speaking skills on my own. In the process, I realized that I am a Kinesthetic-leaner.

That being so, I would like to talk about the advantages and disadvantages of improving English which I have learned when I was young and learning English after I became an adult.

Firstly schooling was the first method of learning English. It was about learning Phonology (Sound, Pronunciation), Lexis (Word meaning, Vocabulary), and grammar, it was possible to have an effective conversation later on. However, it was difficult to use as a daily life conversation nor situational conversation due to teacher’scramming method of teaching. It was also a very limited teaching method and moreover, lack of expressions.

For example, after high school, I learned English at British College. At that time, I was fortunate to pass intermediate level, but I could not answer to any questions nor it was difficult to participate in-group discussions. I understood what people were saying almost, but I could not speak at all. Because most teachers in Korea, focusing on textbooks and making notes, usually Korean students do not have enough opportunity to speak.

Secondly, method of learning from a daily life conversation while living abroad, learning was much more effective compare to10 years of studying in the past. Through this experience, I knew I am a kinesthetic-learner. Everyday life English learning was more effective.

For example, when I went to N.Y to work as an intern, I worked in cafe. Over there, I learned how to use grammar and vocabulary and different meanings with same words through the conversation with many people. It was tough times, but I was fortunate to prepare myself to practice English and benefitted from the situation that I was in. Also, that made me possible to ask and respond in a daily life conversation. So I was able to communicate fluently after 5months.

Both above methods worked well for me. The first method took a long time, but it helped me to improve as a beginner level student. The second method for me was more effective in speaking English, but I need to practice and repeat more often. It is easy to forget. After I came back to Korea, I focused on speaking rather than studying alone. I finally considered the style of my learner type.

To sum up, to learn a second language effectively, we need to know what type of learner we are, what intelligence we have. And as a teacher, we also need to know how each student can learn a language easily. However, it takes time to realize. So, it is recommended that we try to learn through various methods. We will figure out what our strengths and weaknesses are. And it will be very helpful in improving our second language skills.

In conclusion, I want to be Involver-style teacher. Making curriculum by age group first, and then normally I will try to actively involve students. And also I will try to find interesting activities, giving them positive feedback immediately. I will try to make my class a student-centered class.