**My Second Language Experience about acquisition**

TESOL 194TH

Kyung Min Kim (Jessica)

According to Stephen Krashen, He mentioned that Second language acquisition is learning of learning a second language after a first language is already established. For my personal experience, I went to school in United States when I was 9th grade. Even though I knew A,B,C..s and few easy words; 9th grade is considered as my beginning of second language acquisition. Furthermore, he mentioned, 3 ways to introduce the second language. From three, I acquire my second language mostly because of setting and speaker. Teacher only speaks English since he/she is American, and I took lots of class, but definitely most classes have to use English speak only rules if there is another Korean students especially in ESL or English classes. However, my second language experience about acquisition was failure. And I think I absorbed my English skills more from the study for several supporting reasons.

First, when I was 1st year in United States, I didn’t know even easy words or phrases but I had to know how to communicate that relates to home lives, health, and friendships from Individual learner differences. For instance, I was really hungry, and I wanted to order something. However, I didn’t know that phrase “can I order blah blah…?” so I had to mimic that phrase person who was in front of me. Actually, a person in front of me is my friend until now. At that time, I wanted to intimate with her. Even though she is Korean, she immigrated to US, so her English was better than Korean. So I had to learn English to intimate with her. Therefore, mostly my second language acquisition is held because of home lives, health, and friendships to survive in United States.

After I learned this TESOL course, I could assess me and her language proficiency at that time. She was bottom side at high intermediate group, and I was in false beginner level. Because I learned English in Korea before I go to US, so I knew A,B,C…s and few words. But I couldn’t understand almost anything what I listened, and I couldn’t tell almost anything what I want to say.

Furthermore, when I mimic what she said at first, I needed to hear and mimic what she said. Other than that situation I learned my second language acquisition from Auditory from three learner modes which are visual, auditory, and kinesthetic. When I didn’t get everything about lectures, I tried to record lecture during class, and reviewed them at home. If lecture held 1 hour, I took 3 hours for reviewing to listen slowly, and find word that I didn’t understand, etc. Sometimes, I also used visual modes such as highlight on the books, make flash cards. However, I don’t like to involve group discussion, field trip because I was person shier than nowadays, so I can certainly say that I didn’t use kinesthetic modes that much from three learner modes.

Second, I wanted to mention one case when I was in ESL (English as a second Language) class at 9th grade. I had dictation test, and I wrote “cohead” instead of right answer “coed”. At that time, I knew my answer was wrong at that time because teacher tried to laugh during class where all students were and made me embarrassed. I think listen student, and shows respect is most important characteristic that teacher’s needs to be have. She did not show qualities such as empathy or respect, to students to be effective teacher because she just focused on what I got wrong and tried to laugh during class.

However, I remembered her teaching type was involver because she tried to her class by using objects like blocks, posters, and uses to play a song when she taught; since we are all from countries as ESL students, but she still wanted to do reading, writing, and memorize words by English dictionary. Therefore, I remembered her class was made of 50% her lecture or talking, and 50% of our participation or talking. So, I assume her teaching type is involver.

As you can predict, I am more intrapersonal person according to Howard Gardner’s multiple intelligence Theory. Therefore, I liked to prepare test alone by memorizing textbook, and seems more fit and comfortable for me. In our TESOL class, when we learned about multiple intelligence theory, intrapersonal person has more intelligence to be a psychologist. I completely agree about that even I graduated from psychology major in bachelor’s degree. However, I regret about that I barely remember what I learned through University. I liked just hear from much from teacher (high TTT), and memorize through this.

According to learner retention rates, lecture and reading can be recalled 10percents. Even Audio and Video materials can be recalled 20percents. Therefore, I forgot almost what I learned from university after test. However, when I study for master’s degree in Korea; even though it had language differences but master’s degree needs more discuss, teaching to others, and demonstration; so I could remember around more than 70percent until now.

To the sum up, when I throw back of my second language experience, I just tried to listening lecture and study for it where desks are displayed by low. Like mug and jug, I preferred to receive instructor’s information and memorize them. Furthermore, as I mentioned from second example, didn’t have good rapport with me even though she was 1st instructor who I met in US; and she didn’t care about students individually and effectively. In my opinion, rapport between student and instructor is thoroughly important to make creating a positive learning atmosphere, and my 1st instructor in US was fail generally even though my characteristic was shier, and more intrapersonal than now. Therefore, I saw my second language experience about acquisition was failure, and my second language experience is more likely come from studying.