My experience of L2 Acquisition – a Success of Failure?

First, I am going to say about what acquisition is. Acquisition is a way of learning a second language after your first language has been learned. It is similar to the way people learn their first language. My experience of L2 Acquisition was success. In this essay I will discuss my experience the time I learned English during 1 year in Canada. At that period, I was a university student, I was 22 years old.

Because of strong first impression I remember first day of school. Many things were very different from what I used to. There were various students from other countries such as Mexico, Brazil, Europe, Japan, etc. Our class has dynamics. Students’ nationalities and cultures and life styles, gender and personalities were different. I could have diverse experience. In fact, that I leaned English with students from various countries is supported by **Individual Learner Difference.** Class dynamics kept me motivated more. We were curious about their cultures and lives. We asked and communicated each other very naturally so we became very close. It made our classroom’s mood and relationship very good and active. Every student was adult, and we were motivated and usually had goal each. So, it was not necessary teacher to be strict to us. My teacher was like other student just has more knowledge. We usually say the **rapport** (relationship teacher and me & students) is very important. Good rapport made me to learn English easily. We shared our interests and native culture comfortably. While sharing this kind of things, we could learn English naturally. Teacher taught us very effectively. Most class teaching method was not a 1-way lecture. My teacher continuously communicates with us. **(Effective teaching)**

Our classroom was very modern. We had just about 10 students in a class and desk layout was U style, so we could know each other more and communicate well. Class was centered to students and we went to field trip often. We discussed about easy topics to approach easily. Through group work and fun activities, we could learn English without stress. We didn’t need to memorize compulsory. Because we learned English naturally not by force, I could remember well. It explains **Learner Retention Rates.** This modern class teacher is usually **involver.** My teacher (She) was too. She always made us experience many things and gave us many chances. Her respects and attitude toward me made me to have English confidence. I became a Data-gatherernot Rule-former **(Type of Learners)** at least during this period. That’s why I could speak quite fluently and could be sociable.

I will use the **‘acquisition/learning(studying) hypothesis’** as a final point to prove why my L2 acquisition was success. According to Krashen, fluency in second language performance is due to what we have acquired not we have learned. I acquired English. I could listen and speak English subconsciously not by studying. Comprehensible input is the crucial and necessary ingredient for the acquisition of language. There are 4 **language skills**, which is Listening, Reading, Speaking, Writing. In Canada, I’m sure to level up my Listening and Speaking ability as using English continuously. As repeating English naturally, I generally communicated effectively and could use the English appropriately in every day. My English Level was close to Intermediate. **(Assessing Language** **Proficiency)** Because I studied basis of English in Korea, I could know English structure and grammar, so the natural environment influenced me to start to speak English more comfortably. I think it’s also related to **‘the Input** **hypothesis’** (previous level + 1) Input Hypothesis, the teacher should create many opportunities for language acquisition. My teacher really tried to give me this comprehensible input with various method. She attracts voluntary participation from us well. I debated and talked a lot and should use English on particular situation. It also related to **Language system. (discourse and function)**

My experience of L2 Acquisition was success. In Canada, the class was very dynamic and I enjoyed everything. There was no force and difficult exam to study. I could have high motivation for English, self- esteem, and almost 0 anxiety because it was not a study. And My teacher’s teaching style changed my thinking about English. At that time, I didn’t realized how teacher influenced to me, but as preparing this essay, I deeply think about importance of teacher’s teaching way. I want to be a good teacher who gives positive influence to students.

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