Name: Jiwoo Han

Class Number: 201WD

Acquisition is a way to accept new language in natural and slow way. It is retained permanently through communication. My second language acquisition is a success from the time period 2006 to 2013 by taking high school course and diploma course and further University graduation in Sydney.

In my learning, motivation of **Individual Learning Differences** was a key to success learning English.

I had to motivate myself to have an active attitude to learn English as communication tool. I arrived Sydney to take English course in Easter holidays in 2006 in racks of ability to speak English. I had to stay in dormitory alone and nobody did let me know where to get some meal or where is grocery store. I could not speak English at all even though I knew grammar and some words and there was no one helped me out. Also, I had to find out the place where I could exchange note to coins to make a call to family in Korea. I could not even say I want to exchange to coins, so I just bought a bottle of water at café that was just in front of dormitory without saying any words and get change. I repeated this several times to get coins and I could not ask someone to swap the note to coins.

At that time, I was not able to talk or ask where is grocery store or get some coins so I was quite disappointed myself that why I did not make efforts on English before I came to Sydney. I stayed all day long for rest of holidays as I did not know where to go and how to communicate with mates next to the room. It motivated me to learn some short sentences and to try me to speak out from easy words with gestures. In other words, this internal motivation was my **Characteristic of Adult Learners** at that time. I was self-directed and practical as I put myself in the position of imitating what the other people say and act in situations afterwards.

I was kinesthetic learner according to **Three Learner Modes**. I ask and learn something from someone with gestures and facial expressions which quite worked in my case. The students at dormitory helped me to improve my English and I can say it was interpersonal, kinesthetic intelligence from **Multiple Intelligence Theory**. They were foreign students and communicated with me by gestures and movements. The awareness of others’ gestures and the interaction with people to let me obtain the knowledge of how to react to others and what to say in different situations without saying fluently in English.

 My **Assessing Language Proficiency** was close to beginner. I communicated mostly through gestures and few words, barely speak words or sentences. I observed and mimic what people do and say. It slowly helped me to develop **Language Skills and Systems** more on speaking, listening side and on function. I realized that imitate sounds of words and sentences accumulated by some time slowly manifest at some point and let me speak out step by step with short words. I felt that the more listening the better speaking at that time. It was like root to grow up, function was developed without noticing myself. In my case, learning by dong was the best thing to improve my level by **Learner Retention Rate**. I had to do and it was just facing reality when I struggled to speak English. I could not just resist not to speak anything in front of foreign mates so I had to just say anything to gain information and communicate. I needed to have courage to speak out in English at first time but I just could do it after a while when I was accustomed to speak easy English words in natural way, it was the most helpful attitude to raise my level. Likewise, my experience to learn second language in foreign country was done in natural order by **Second Language Acquisition**.

 Some parts of English was acquired before moving on to higher level. I understood some easy words at first then I combined them, it could be assembled in brain and could express in sentences.

 The affective filter was another in acquisition. I was not anxiety than Korea in speaking English as I know no one in Sydney and there was no friends at dormitory as well, I was not really shy learning and speaking like little kid. Low anxiety did lead me to high motivation/

 In **Effective Teaching** of my English teacher’s attitude towards me at course was really helpful in achieving better English level. Teacher was patience to listen what I said even though I could not say properly, she tried to use easy words to communicate in simultaneous way as well as her enthusiastic attitude towards me.

 I was in the success phase in achieving English level as my second language. My experience taught me that taking steps slowly but naturally can raise my ability to learn languages at some point even though I could not realize at that time.

Word count: 855