

My successful experience of L2 Acquisition

I successfully acquired English without even realizing it. L2 acquisition means obtaining new language without studying. I have been learning English since I was young, and I was constantly exposed to the opportunities to use English. Every **individual Learner** has differences and compared to the time I spent on English, I was always unsatisfied with my English. This low self-esteem made me be unmotivated, and at that time, the reason for me learning English was only because of my parents. Due to these reasons, I have always thought that my English acquisition was a failure. However, I realized at one point that I could write an essay like this and enjoy talking in English. So I will write about how I acquired my L2 language, English, steadily.

I've traveled to many different countries all over the world. In some countries, I stayed for a few months and had opportunities to experience new cultures. Especially, living in English speaking countries such as Australia, Philippine, Canada, provided me an excellent environment for me to acquire English. I had to know how to communicate in daily life. Since I am an **interpersonal** person, I wanted to make a good relationship with everyone including my homestay family and new friends. Moreover, I wanted to express my thoughts and emotions clearly. So these factors motivated me strongly and made me try harder to communicate with people. I was able to practice English all the time, and it automatically improved my listening and speaking skills. In fact, according to the **Learner Retention Rates**, experiential learning and cooperative learning were much more effective to acquire L2, compared to just listening lecture or reading texts. With these real-life experiences, I was able to obtain **productive language skills**. Even though I have comparatively weak **grammar** and **lexis** among the **language system**, as a result, I grew up as a **data-gatherer** with fluent communication. Now, I am confident in communicating in English, and sometimes, I even prefer speaking English instead of my mother tongue with my friends.

Another way I acquired English was to go to an international school. There, I had to study all the subjects in English. I did not study English, but learning subjects such as biology and management in English naturally taught me how to form sentences and improved vocabulary skills. Based on The **Input Hypothesis**, students can learn effectively when they study one step above their current level. As so, because all the words are new to me, I studied the subjects harder to understand them clearly. Especially, to memorize the knowledge perfectly, I had to read the textbooks several times and practice to answer questions in English. Participating in those lessons in English also improved my English, since I prefer **auditory learner modes**. Moreover, according to **the Monitor Hypothesis**, to

have fluent language skills, the monitor should be limited. When I was studying different subjects, I didn't have to worry about grammar or vocabulary. This brought me confidence in using a new language.

Good rapport between the teachers and me helped me as well. When I misunderstand some parts, the teachers try to explain it in different words. They were teachers who were **involver** type with **modern** teaching styles, which are exactly the learning styles I prefer. They often asked my opinions about the lessons, and when I faced obstacles, they worked as an advisor for me. As a person who considers the relationship the most, this helps motivated even more. This good **rapport** between my teacher and me and suitable teaching styles worked as a huge helper for me to understand and ultimately acquire English. All these experiences in an international school, even though I was not studying English particularly, I was able to acquire English.

My English acquisition is very successful. All the experiences in the past made me have strong English skills. Especially the time I spent in English speaking countries and areas including my international school ultimately improved my L2 acquisition. I didn't know it before, but now that I think about it again, I succeeded with my English. The essay made me think about my English acquisition deeply and as a result of all the thinkings, it supported me to realize how far I came, and how much I enjoy using English.

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