

Name: Helen  
Class Number: 222WK

**Essay Topic: My experience of L2 Acquisition- a Success or Failure?**

From TESOL program, I learned there are two ways to develop second language such as acquisition and studying. I recalled my experience and realized that my second language was developed by acquisition. The acquisition is developing second language like native language through natural communication. Now, I would like to share my experience of L2 acquisition from the time I learned English at the high school in the States.

When I was 16, my family moved to Chicago for my parents' business. I could tell my English level was very low because there was no motivation to study English, and also I had no interest in studying English before I moved to the States. My first school in Chicago was a small private high school. I still remember my first ESL teacher because I had a good **rappor**t with her. She called me by my Korean name even it was hard to pronounce it for her. Also, she was with her smile whenever I got into her class. I still remember her warm and friendly smile and eye contact for each student in the classroom. She made such a great **classroom dynamic** by playing background music for the first 10 minutes until all students are seated and get ready for the class. Also, we often played vocabulary bingo game in a small group. I really enjoyed this class, no time to feel board. Since the level of English was low, the teacher combined all **Three Learner Modes**. She played a short clip from the famous movie or drama at least two or three times. First, she covered screen and played it so students can use only auditory mode and then she played it with subtitles and let students watch the screen now students can use visual mode. Lastly, she paired up two or three students to play each scene with line or expression we learned from the clip which is a using of kinesthetic mode. I can say this class was fun and I enjoyed it.

At the end of the semester, I was evaluated by **Assessing Language Proficiency** so I can be placed in an appropriate class. By the way, the new teacher found each students weakness in grammar through the test and she assigned a project of short presentation to give a lesson about the weakness for other students. My topic was "Article." I had spent a whole week to prepare for this presentation. I had to study and understand "Article" to explain and teach other students. I still remember "Article" by my experience of teaching other technique from **Learner Retention Rates**. Since the level is up, the teacher was more likely enabler of **Three Teacher Types**. She gave a brief and very limited instruction for the project or activity and let students to find out solutions by ourselves. For the group work, classroom was horseshoe desk arrangement and students are active and communicative in the class like **Modern Teaching classroom**.

As I recall my ESL classes in the high school, there were students from different countries. We all different in culture, religion, previous learning experience and knowledge of the world. It was my very first time to have friends from India or Pakistan which I was not familiar at all about these countries. Even we all different, the teacher understood **Individual Learner Difference** and provided approachable lesson since we are all in same English level and have a same reason of studying English which was living in the States and attending American high school. Also, she had a great **Effective Teaching Qualities** that she respected each student no matter what student's nationality or religion is. She treated each student with warm heart and listen to their voices. She empathized students how hard it is to acquire second language, so she always tried to give a positive feedback and cheer up the students.

In conclusion, these atmosphere and support by my past ESL teachers made a success of my second language acquisition. Before I took this TESOL program, I thought my second language was developed by studying but now I can tell it was acquired naturally. I would like to keep these methods in mind and plan the course for my future students to make them communicative and have confidence in their second language.

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