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My experience of L2 Acquisition – a success or failure?

Language acquisition is the process of learning a language in a natural way, such as being involved in real communication and without formal studying. My experience of L2 acquisition was a success. In this essay, I will discuss my experience from the time I first started learning English in the US at age 16 to the time I graduated from University in the US.

When I was in US History class, the teacher put a lot of posters of important historical figures on the wall. Also, he placed a globe on his desk and was hung a US state map next to the whiteboard which attracted our attention. He even allowed us to use a laptop whenever we need to search for something related to the class. Moreover, the desk arrangement was in a cluster shape to help us have a better discussion. This can be linked to **Classroom Dynamic**.

After I decided to register for the Marketing class, I was worried about my English skills, however, I needed to find a way to understand and learn fully in the class. First, I talked to the teacher and introduced myself to her, let her know that I just arrived in the US and I am an international student. She was happy to hear my story and said thank you for letting her know. She said she will do everything to help and support my learning. This can be linked to **Good Rapport**. She considered my situation (New to the US, have no culture/school experience here yet, second language learner) carefully and gently asked me if I will feel comfortable using an electronic dictionary during the class. I said it will be very helpful if she allows me to use it. Any use of electronic devices such as laptops and phones was prohibited in her class, but she made an exclusion for me. Because of her consideration, I did very well in the class. This can be linked to **Individual Learner Differences**. The final project of the Marketing class came and the goal was to sell the Halloween-exclusive school supplies as much as possible. Before we begin the project, the teacher showed a video that was filmed by her former Marketing class student. We watched, listened, and wrote down some useful tips from the video that we can apply to our project. This can be linked to **Three Learner Modes**. In the project, I was involved in an overall management team to brainstorm the idea of an advertising plan and setting an appropriate price for our goods. I used my logical/mathematical and interpersonal intelligence skills to participate in the project. This can be linked to the **Multiple Intelligence Theory**.

My Chemistry class will be the most modern-styled class that I have ever had. There was a lot of Classroom Dynamics. Except on the exam day, we were very communicative and always sat in Horse-shoe shape to have group work and discussion more easily. A lot of guest speakers came to the class to demonstrate the experiments. This can be linked to **Traditional vs Modern Teaching**. The class was very experience-based and it is hard to forget. I had plenty of chances to talk and experience. The teacher gave a lecture, read books, showed some audio-visual and live demonstrations for analyzing the explosive soap foam. She let us make a group to have an experiment together. After that, we had to give a presentation with Q&A. This can be linked to **Learner Retention Rates**.

All of my US History, Marketing and Chemistry teacher has something in common. They were Enabler teachers. They had a good rapport with us, using active classroom dynamics, and let us talk more. This can be linked to **Three Teacher Types**. The Marketing teacher listened to me carefully, the Chemistry teacher was enthusiastic, US History teacher was very organized and knows the subject matter well. This can be linked to **Effective Teacher Quality**.

To have a successful acquisition in language learning, having a good rapport between teacher and student in an active classroom dynamic environment is required. I was able to experience an English acquisition since those supporting environments helped me learn English more naturally. This assignment has taught me a lot about both how to be a good student and a good teacher. I want to be a teacher who always trying to use all 14 references that I have learned from TOSEL in my class to help students learn English in a more “Acquisition” way.