**My Second Language**

**Acquisition Experience**

My Successful story of learning Italian

On the basis of

**“Adult learner characteristics”**

**“Effective teaching”**

**“Learning styles/intelligences”**

**“Teacher types”**

Teacher’s desirable attitude toward students

**Student’s Name :** Victoria (Yun Eon Jung)

**Teacher’s Name :** Valerie Hamer

**Class :** TESOL 34th Weekend

**Date :** November 6th , 2010

**Word Count :** 580 words

I love learning foreign languages.

One of the languages I’d learned effectively was Italian.

I met lots of teachers and learned in many different types of teaching from learning foreign languages so far.

Of them all, I was really satisfied with Italian Language School where I went in Rome. I could get a quick and high improvement especially in speaking and writing

Why was so successful? There are 4 main characteristics.

**The class was consisted of foreign adult students.**

That means we all have different nationalities and many different experiences. Adult students take responsibility for their own learning. And they are motivated when they can apply to immediate circumstances. Therefore, the class was well organized and

During the class, we tried to talk only in Italian.

We learned lots of new words and expressions from other’s experiences. My communication skill improved a lot and learned about various different cultures.

**The teaching method really suited on me.**We learned new words and expressions in certain situations through the use of demonstration and visual aids.

Teachers prepare short conversation. And they make students guess what the conversation is through pantomiming.

After several tries of guessing, teacher writes the conversation on board and students do a role playing. I could hardly forget those expressions easily because I tried to think of the conversation as if I were in real situation.

**Using my musical and interpersonal intelligences was very helpful.**

Teachers gave students fill-in-the blank exercise using lyrics of the canzone. Since, I love music, I really enjoyed the rhythms as well as language itself. The degree of improvement reflects how much I can enjoy learning on the basis of one’s interest.

In another class, we listen to the short everyday conversation. And then, we make small groups and talk about the conversation.

We exchange group members about 4 times and meet other students as many as possible. Every student has his or her own understanding. I liked pretty much about sharing other people’s opinion. But there weren’t any interruptions of teachers. That was really good for me not having to think about the errors.

**Three teachers who taught me were all enablers.**

Teachers make students think how to say in certain situations.

There were no corrections after student’s speaking.

They just look around to see how students feel and think.

They make encouraging class atmosphere. I could learn Italian with very active attitude. The way the teachers taught made me very confident confronting any people and any situations without worrying about making mistakes.

For those 4 reasons, I could successfully finish my design courses at University with no difficulties.

I think learning 2nd language should be the same with the way of learning 1st language. How to deal with the situations and interactions with others are very important.

Nobody can tell us the very right answers to the every situation.

Teachers just should be the guide, counselor, or a resource of information when needed.

Every single person has his or own language acquisition ability.

Teachers should respect every student’s ability and help them to drag it out from them with encouraging and using suitable methods.