**My Second Language**

**Acquisition Experience**

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Introduction

I have an experience learning English in the U.S.A. Because my first language is Korean, I had many difficulties of studying English. While I took ESL course, I was very surprised at different types of teaching. Teachers had distinctive characters, and they managed in their own ways. I was very impressed of all their classes. I was not familiar with different classes from Korean’s at the first time, but I found classes were not boring. I became participating in the classes most of time whereas I did not tend to be active in traditional classes. These four reasons helped me to learn English in an effective way.

1. Teacher Types ‘Enabler’

One of my English teachers whose teacher type was Enabler helped me to learn English in a natural way. Her class always began with dividing us into a small group, usually 2 to 4 members for each group. When she gave us a piece of paper explaining today’s topic, she gave a tip for some special phrases, expressions, or the proper ways to answer the questions. Then she usually walked around us listening most of conversation or sitting on her seat, and she hardly involved the conversation. At the end of the class, she wrote some incorrect sentences that was spoken some of the students. We corrected them together and learned grammar and speaking at the same time. This was very helpful for me because teacher gave us much time to do on our own.

1. Modern Classrooms

Modern classrooms which I had mostly in the U.S.A. were very enjoyable ways to learn English. Most of classes in Korea were traditional classrooms where I was educated in. Modern classrooms were not familiar with me at the first time, so I could not concentrate on the class. However, I found that there were a variety of activities and group works in modern classrooms. I did may works such as artistic activities, outdoor classes, watching and listening, and group works with classmates. The students were excited of participating in every works. The teachers helped us only when we needed to make sure some rules of activities.

1. Leaning Styles

My type is visual because when I did visual activities in the class, I was always interested in the class. I remember one class. My teacher wanted to teach us how to explain directions on the map. She gave us a sheet of paper and taught us some expressions. I was divided into one of groups and started to explain where the building is or where the bus stop is. That is why I think I am a visual type. I always liked leaning from visual works, and it made me remember things longer.

1. Characteristics of Adult Learners

I am relevancy-oriented when I decide to do something. There were many different kinds of classes at ESL course, and I took a business class because of my major. I believed it would helpful for me to learn more about business in English. I could learn not only English but many expressions used in business world. My teacher taught us how to take a phone call at company and appropriate expressions. I took the class twice because I needed it. Finally, I was very satisfied with the business class. If my major was not related to business, I would have never chosen that class.

 Conclusion

I shared my experience at ESL course in America. I mostly enjoyed interactions with students and teachers. Different teaching styles of teachers helped me to learn speaking, writing, listening, and reading in an effective way.