My Second Language Experience in Korea

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The most important second language acquisition to me is English. I have learnt English really long time and I am still learning it. So I have many learning experiences and theories of English. I want to write why I have studied English, what types of teachers I have met and my learning styles.

First of all, I want to tell you why I have studied English for a long time. When I was a primary school age, I thought I liked English but now I come to think of it, it is hard to believe that I motivated to learn and was willing work on homework. I think I studied English because of my mother and teachers. My mother looked happy and teachers adored me if I got a high grades. Then I entered into an intermediate school, I studied English to apply for universities. After graduation from at a university, I enrolled in a TESOL Course for a job. Now as in ages past, I still do like English but I think the extrinsic reasons are of great importance to me.

Second of all, the most of teachers who I have met at schools shown quiet similarity types. The teachers I have met up to high school were kind of explainers. In their classes over 70% time of a period, they were delivered lectures about English and we spent rest of the time by reading textbooks or teacher’s writing on a board. Most of them used traditional teaching techniques, especially when they were using punishments. For an example, when I was a senior at the high school, in every lunchtimes we were having a short vocabulary tests by a form teacher. She was not even an English teacher. After writing words, we switched papers with a partner and checked answers. After that we handed in the papers to teacher. Then the teacher called students in front of the class who got wrong answers over 2 words and hit our hips with a wood stick in proportion to the number of the words we were mistaken. I have been called and got punishment just once and that was really shamed to me so after that horrible experience I tried hard to not been named. In the future, when I am teaching my students, I want be an involver rather than an explainer.

Third of all, I want to tell you about my learning styles. I think my sensory preference is tactile-kinesthetic. When I try to memorize vocabulary, I try to speak out the words aloud while I am writing it. I can remember the words faster and longer when I use my body together. For the strength of my intelligence, in the Gardener’s ‘Multiple Intelligence Theory’, I think my strength is interpersonal intelligence. I have taken an MBTI Test at the university with a school counselor. The test result was ‘ESFJ’. E is an abbreviation of ‘Extraversion’. I like people and being with them but speaking English with others is not my strong point because basic languages skills that I have learnt most of time at schools were receptive skills. So I can learn English quiet comfortable by listening and reading compare to speaking and writing. I know to be an English teacher I really need the all of the basic language skills, especially speaking. So I really want to improve my speaking and writing skills.

In conclusion, I write the experience about the most important second language acquisition. I wrote reasons for studying English, teacher’s teaching techniques that I have experienced as a student and then my styles of learning. In the past I could divide the success of failure as an English learning experience by did I get an ‘Excellent’ or not and actually nowadays I think I am studying English for and external reasons, too. For now, I am studying English for a job and a certification, but later, when I become the English teacher, I hope that I will study English for professional self-development.