Learning English as a second language

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(535)

Nowadays, the society is requiring people to have various educational backgrounds for a better life. This is the reason why most young people study Engish as a second language in korea. This essay, therefore, will explore the aspects of adult learner characteristics, traditional and modern classrooms, teacher types and effective teaching by looking at my personal learning experiences.

**Learning English in Korea**

When I was in elementary school, I studied English as a foreign language for the first time. English teacher taught us English in styles of Audio Lingual Method. For example, I repeated words in the same way as the foreigner on TV. Through this training, teacher explained the meaning of the English words in old teaching styles. When I entered the middle school, I studied only reading and listening English because most students only wanted to pass the University Entrance Exam. I listened to the teacher’s explanations without questions and memorized the vocabularies as a passive learner. These kinds of classes are very effective when teacher wants students to learn the extensive knowledge concerning English in a short time. Teacher’s role was a messenger or explainer. I was embarrassed whenever I met foreigners since I couldn’t have any experience of talking with them until graduation of high school. Though I knew many words and grammar, I could speak only simple sentence and phrasal verbs. **[출처]** [TESOL과정 첫 essay Assignment.](http://blog.naver.com/jung667900/130093397218)|**작성자** [에밀리](http://blog.naver.com/jung667900)

**Learning English in the Philippine**

After several failures at the English Teacher’s exam, I went to the Baguio city, in the Philippines to learn English for IELTS. . During that time, unlike the past, I was goal-oriented and had clear objectives of why I wanted to study. However, I was used to listening and reading learning style during that time, therefore I was weak at English speaking where I hardly constructed a single English sentence even though I was good at reading. Starting from the beginner’s level, my study of English language in the Philippine began. From the very start of my English class, I was surprised on the learning environment. Compared to the learning environment I had back in Korea, teachers focused more on the level of student participation and encouraged student leadership and autonomous learning. Teachers were an enabler where they tried to be a guide or counselor rather than take full control over the students. For the first time, I didn’t adjust to this class. But, there was a good teacher I remember knew how to teach English more effectively in modern classroom learning environment. She provided clear and positive feedback, shown respect to every student of hers, and really listened to the students. Her teaching skills encouraged the students to actively participate in class activities, and hence allowed me to improve English skills faster.

Each teaching style has its own advantages. However, based on my personal experiences in language learning, I found that modern classroom learning environment encouraged students to participate more enthusiastically and an enabler pulled up the student’s study performance more proficiently. Therefore I strongly believe that students can learn English as a second language more effectively and well when a teacher acts as an enabler and lead the class in modern style.