TESOL

Second Language Acquisition Assignment

TESOL W/K 88th

Kim Han Na (Cynthia)

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Nowadays, It’s a given that Korea children spends a fair amount of time to study English. Most children start to learn English from kindergarten. Koreans want to master English in a short period of time. Does early English education work in Korea? Is going to be early English education effective in Korea? Why does people feel the limit of their English through they start to learn English early? The point of the question in this essay is to realize the environment of second language with my experience.

I began to study English at the middle school student. The class was 50 minutes. For me personally, English studying in middle school did absolutely nothing to help me for speaking in the ‘real language’. I didn’t know what phonic is and I had meet explainers and traditional teaching ways. I had to memorized too many words without knowledge of they used in a variety of meaning. And teacher thought grammar is very important but teacher didn’t explain that there are lot of exceptions of grammar rules. I had to memorize whole grammar. Also I had a test after reading a text book. Such learning methods were limited studying English for me. Although the English programs are made up of 4 sections: oral communication, listening, reading, and writing, the problem with English education in school is that student tend to either emphasize grammar ability and vocabulary or concentrate on getting high scores in English tests. At that time, English was of no use besides class. It bored me and I didn’t like learning English during the school days.

When I was 20, I had the chance to go to University of Philippines for a short language training course. Somehow I had to overcome conversation for studying. I was educated native speaker of the language and Philippines teacher. The class was studied through discussion, work groups, presentation, research project, teacher made me study myself. It may not be the easiest or fastest way, but it was very useful for me at least. I tried to participate more in class. I thought environment is important. The Philippines is ESL country so I heard English whole day and any where. Therefore When I met foreign friends my spoken English has improved much. That short program helped me in useful to learn English. I have acquired English naturally by studying there. In Philippine, it was good opportunity to know how to study English, enjoying meet foreigner, encouragement in studying English, interested in language. I think the best way to master a foreign language is to spend a period of time in that country.

Come back Korea, I studied English in Group and I took a class a language institution. But the biggest problem in studying English in Korea, that I don’t have a lot of opportunities to speak English.

At first, I began to teach with the thoughts that ‘Teaching is the best form of learning’. Now I’m a kindergarten English teacher. I teach them phonology using flash cards and activity as an involver.

I should serve as role models for children because they imitates their teacher way of behave and talking. I take more responsibility for my behavior.

I want to help my student to make English accessible. I plan to continue developing my teaching skills.