**My Two Language Learning Experience**

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1. **Introduction**

Which English learning experience was helpful to me? Traditional or Modern?

1. **Body**
2. First Experience

My Traditional classroom experience in a formal school education and TOEIC class

1. Second Experience

My Modern classroom experience in the USA and business English class in Korea

1. **Conclusion**

Both types of classrooms are helpful to acquire a language. It depends on the goal of class.

1. Introduction

Most of English learners in Korea have studied in Traditional classroom. Fortunately, I’ve learned English by two kind of style - traditional and modern during stayed in the USA.

Based on my experiences, I would like to talk about which type is more helpful to acquire second language for adult.

1. Body

I) Traditional classroom experience.

When I studied English in formal school education, my English classes were typical traditional classroom. All classes were focus on receptive skills – reading and listening. Most of English teachers were good explainer except the 2nd grade of high school teacher. He was not an explainer but just a teacher’s book reader. He read everything based on a text book not paraphrased. He didn’t know how to teach a language except delivering information because he had never experienced another way either. Also He had a terrible intonation and pronunciation even Korean. Sometimes he read wrong pronunciation. i.e. He pronounced “LEVI’S” as ‘lebis’ not ‘li:vaiz’.

Except him, other English teachers were good explainers and they brought a cassette player so that students could listen a native speaker’s pronunciation and students repeated it. Some teachers had short vocabulary tests to memorize.

Students had to study a language individually to prepare exam. And getting higher grade was very important. At that time, English was not a language but a subject needed to get high score to enter better university.

Another traditional classroom experience was a TOEIC grammar class. A teacher of this class taught on rote memorization of rules again and again. He analyzed sentences and explained words functions. To help remembering vocabulary, he analyzed words roots, prefix and suffix. Sometimes he explained grammar, he asked student’s opinions which one was the answer and why. He led us into the class.

II) Modern classroom experience.

When I arrived in the USA, I think my English level was a high beginner. I could get what I wanted to know from simple communication with a native speaker and I knew what they needed. During I stayed, I took an ELS class on low intermediate. One of teachers, she had a passion to teach and made an effort student to be understood. She made a beat using clapping for students who were not familiar intonation, especially Asian, when students read a sentence. Also she invited us to her place to built friendship with classmate. She tried to chat with comfort atmosphere each other. It was helpful to take away nervous in class. She was a teacher as an involver and the class was consisted of four skills; listening, reading, speaking and writing. One of assignments was presentation regarding traditional culture of own country in front of classmate. To prepare the presentation, I brought a traditional mask to the class. My subject was Korean traditional mask and dance. Another classmate brought an oriental art postcard drawn by herself.

Not even classroom, all around of me was a modern classroom. I could acquire a language everywhere and every situation. Before I’d arrived in the America, I knew only one greeting expression “how are you”, and one answer “I’m fine. Thank you, and you?” However every person I met said other expression “How have you been?” “what’s up?” “what’s new?” etc. whenever people asked me by different expression I was flustered because I didn’t know how to answer by different questions. So I asked people using different way I learned to know how other people answered.

Another modern classroom experience was an institute in Korea. When I took a course of business English, the text book was relevancy oriented. It was related all business subjects such as sales meeting, marketing presentation etc.

To finish one chapter, I had to finish a video class and a student text book before a face to face class. During a face to face class, the class was started with small talk to warm up friendly atmosphere. Meantime a teacher corrected my writing. In the middle of class, a teacher was using vary materials like pictures and role play. The role play was reflected and to be reflected my work experience.

1. Conclusion

As my two types experience, I am sure that my English level was improved by both types. I think it relies on the goal of class. Depending on subject, sometimes traditional classroom should be more efficiency or modern classroom should be better. I am an intrapersonal intelligence type so sometimes I prefer to learn a language by individual work not communicative. I need to time to think and how to apply what I learned.