My experience learning a foreign language and how it will affect me as a teacher

2014. 07. 15. Tuesday

Yuki

I was born in Germany and was able to speak German and Korean. And I came back to Korea when I was 7 years old. I learned English in elementary school. English teacher taught grammar and it was bored. Although I spent plenty of time to learn English more than German, it was too difficult to speak English for me. I found out the reason why I feel hard to study English through my experience learning a foreign language.

**First**, foreign language learning should be fun and encourage students. I worked in kindergarten that taught English. And there were two English teachers. One teacher’s class was very fun. That teacher was playing the game, watching video, singing songs, and using various media. Another teacher was reading a book and students should solve the quiz in the book. The first kindergarten children were very interested in English time, but second kindergarten children didn’t like English class. And when I was young children I learned German like the first way and my teacher commended me and I took courage.

**Second**, it is important to communicate each other. I had learned English grammar focusing on reading and listening skills. I think teacher should know what the students want to learn. Although I learned English for more than 20 years, it is still difficult to communicate with foreigners. Thus in English time, speaking only English seems to grow speak and listening skills. And Teacher and students can interact with each other. When I learned English conversation, it was confused to understand what they say. But increasingly it becomes familiar. And I was close to English and I want to study English more. This method is very useful to me.

So I've learned through my experience as a teacher and as a student. Through the TESOL English classes, I had time for self-reflection. I think how to learn English more effectively and more actively. Teacher should plan various methodologies because of many variables in the class. But if the teacher overcomes the variables, it will lead to be more advanced teacher. I would like to teach students step by step and match the student’s eye-level.