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**What is the most important factor in learning English?**

There are lots of languages in the world. But we could not know what they are exactly. According to Ethnology the language which people use most is Chinese. More than 1,197,000,000 people use it in 22 different countries. The second language is Spanish. And the third language is English. Almost 335,000,000 people use it in 99 countries. Many people use Chinese because of their population throughout the world. The most important thing is we could use English in 99 other countries. That means if we speak English we could live and travel without communication matter in those countries. That is why we should learn English for better life and should take in well.

In Korea, students start to learn English at least when they get in elementary school. In my life I have learned it since when I was 8. At that time we just studied to memorize words and sentences. And most teachers just evaluated their students what they memorized. We took English tests on paper four times a year. If somebody got better grades than the others, teachers and their parents thought they are good at English. Even though they couldn’t speak English as well as their grades in their test and didn’t know how to use it in real conversation situation, they didn’t care about it. Teachers just cared about the result whether it is correct or wrong in a test. Also it was getting worse in high school English education system. I couldn’t remember how I used it in the class. Moreover I was afraid of using English out of school because I never practiced speaking when I was young. Because of those situations we don’t know how to speak English even if we learn languages.

So why couldn’t we enjoy learning? There are two big problems. First, Korea still has the old fashioned educational policy. We have had 24 ministers in the Ministry Education in just 10 years. At first they tried to change its policy but didn’t make it strongly. Even now they couldn’t realize what is wrong seriously. Second problem is because of old teachers and some of new teachers’ teaching methods. They teach their students in old style with chalk and no chance to talk and even make them silent. In somewhere they still teach only some lexes and grammar. So the students don’t know how to use it in right function. Fortunately some of teachers know what they should do nowadays. They use different styles in teaching. They make group activities, using materials, presentations, and find interesting subjects for their students to enjoy. It is getting better and students start to enjoy it. I think teaching style is one of the most important things in education. We learn through it and could make our motivation. We should thank to involver style teachers and enabler style teachers too. If you think your teacher is that kind of style then just go and say “Thank you for being my teacher” then the teacher might be happy and do the best for you. In that way their receptive skills and productive skills of language have been getting better now

I started to learn English when I was young but I enjoyed studying it since I traveled to Japan with my friend. When I was 21, I didn’t know how to speak Japanese and I was afraid of speaking out in English. At that time we lost the way to go our hotel so we had to ask people. I tried to ask in English and suddenly I found out they could understand what I was saying and answered back to me. Since that time I got to have confidence even though I don’t speak English well. The point is we should have our own motivation. That was the most important thing which I found in my studying English. Even now most students are studying English to get better grades. But I hope they would enjoy their studying and make goal from the studies as well as they could get less stress in their school days. Also all teachers, schools and governments must try to give better educational environment for students to find their own motivations.

I know studying the second language is not easy and I experienced both old and new style of teaching in Korea. Now I am an English teacher for children and I always try to make them cheerful in the class. Sometimes I use old style because it is needed. But they can use and apply all the words or sentences

in different situations at the same time. I give some role-play, play lots of games, give some questions in teams so they could use English as they learned and remember those easily. They couldn’t realize we were studying in those times. Sometimes I make better environment for them but they still don’t have any interest in it. They just don’t like any kinds of studying but they must do it for school tests. When I met those of them in my class I would spend time with them out of the class on the weekends. In advance I always ask them “what do you really want to do?” Then they answered just small things such as going to movies or playing in the playground and doing some exercise. Then we did and had a good time. Can you guess what happened after we spent some time together? Magic begins. Students start to like me even we didn’t study yet also try to like learning English. They started to open their mind in class too. That is a good start for having their motivation. Unlike adult students, young children are hard to have their own motivations so teachers should try to find out it in different ways. Teaching is important and learning is more important. But the most important thing is we should try to understand each student’s mind and try to help them. We could call all these kind of teachers in other word.. Mentors!!