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103rd WK TESOL

Sep-20-2014

Being an Performer on the Stage

Becoming a performer on the stage sounds fantastic and impossible to be realized for an ordinary person. However, the angel for the wish is around: foreign language such as Chinese, Japanese, English and so on. The learners of foreign language must have passion, high self-esteem and positive thinking just like a performer on the stage. On the other hand, the effective ways to teach English could vary teacher to teacher. However, there are general but effective ways of teaching English. : making the most of three learner modes, putting on flamboyant clothes and childish accessories, and taking advantage of realia all around us as possible as I can.

First of all, learning foreign language needs passion. People say “Life is a journey.” Learning language is a journey just like life. A passive and unenthusiastic member of any community and society easily become a loser or useless member. Thus, passion helps the learners to overcome many obstacles impeding their learning foreign language. For instance, I did not majored in English in university. English is a destiny in my life. Just after entering to the university, I purchased a big vocabulary book which was almost vocabulary bible for university students at that time. I had completed the book even though more than 90% of the vocabularies were forgotten. Besides, I had been an enthusiastic listener of English daily radio program for four years even during the short domestic travel with friends. In those days before the advent of internet, enrollment for private English institute is the most common and popular way for university students. Speaking to English natives was technically impossible for me as a general Korean student. Therefore, I found the alternative way which was economical and readily accessible. ; it was a listening an English radio program, ‘Good morning pops,’ which was hosted by the famous and popular English instructor whose name was Seong-Sik, Oh. Therefore, I am sure that the passion for English in my twenties has supported my English to improve unconsciously and slightly.

Secondly, the learners must have high self-esteem when speaking in foreign language. It is natural that communicating in English makes English language learners nervous and has low self-esteem. All the English learners accept poor oral skills but do not give up. Find out your strength and praise yourself to boost self-esteem. When my first short trip to Hong Kong, I did not answered properly the question in fluent English. But, I praised myself at least I had comprehended the question. High self-esteem keeps the English learners from being disappointed instead of stopping learning English.

Lastly, positive thinking also keeps the English learners moving forward day by day. Most of Koreans with high school diploma have studied at least six years. Comparing English level with the period of English education, one out of ten must slump and this slump is inevitable for the English language learners. Learning language is a journey as mentioned earlier. I earned an English tour guide license. Unexpectedly, I have never practice the tour guide for making a living. So, did I work in vein? The answer is “absolutely not.” At least, I don’t need to take any English exam to prove my English level. Thus, it is true that “Positive thinking drives you successful.”

The effective ways to teach English will remain unanswered due to a variety of environment, culture, age, level, and so on. However, there are the effective ways for his or her own styles or methods. From the aspects of teachers in Kindergarten, three learner’s modes, outfits and realia are necessary for teaching English effectively.

Firstly, taking advantages of three learner modes including visual, auditory and tactile-kinesthetic is considerate. For example, five or six year old children need stimulators for visual, auditory and tactile-kinesthetic to rod their curiosities and concentrate on the teacher. Otherwise they easily get distracted. For visual modes, multicolored item is recommended. Chant and song will fully satisfy with auditory mode. It is apparent that action along the song or chant is effective for tactile-kinesthetic mode, too.

In addition of three learner modes, the appropriate outfits are viewed as the teacher’s sincere and professional attitude for the class. For instance, flamboyant clothes and childish accessories help the learner as a child to consider the teacher as a familiar character and to create their curiosity. When teaching different colors, I wore a multicolored-shirt. The children kept telling me what colors are on my shirts, not only during class but also after class.

Finally, taking advantage of realia or familiar everyday goods all around us help motivate the learners. Just after English class, the learners close the book and zip up the hippocampus of brain as well as their backpack. From my work experience, I had one real apple, one real pear, one real plum and one real peach with me when I was teaching fruits.

As a English learner, I had kept passion in English, had competence by praising myself as possible as I could and positive thinking whenever facing the obstacles for English.

When it comes to the effective ways to teach English, I do my best to apply three learner modes to teaching, to wear the appropriate outfits for the subject and to using of realia in everyday lives.

The teacher as well as the learner needs to transform from non-English speaker to passionate performer who is always ready for spontaneous performance, called English communication. The beautiful stage for English is ready for well-prepared learners and teachers.