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**Successful Story of My English Acquisition**

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The importance of English education is becoming bigger and bigger for all generations within Korean society. This social trend has resulted in a tremendous competition among the English language schools. Unlike traditional English teaching, which was focused on grammar and reading, modern English learning emphasizes the output skills of English - speaking and writing, for effective use of English. When I first started to learn English at Ewha Foreign Language Institute (hereafter ‘Ewha’), I could 200% succeed in learning English. Overall environments and qualities of teachers were the key factors of Ewha, which made my first experience of learning English successful.

First of all, Ewha provided all the students with the great ‘English-speaking’ environment. English learning can be far more efficient if the learners take how to use English subconsciously, since it is one of the processes of acquisitioning language. Indeed, Ewha had a strict rule on English-speaking environment. They gave penalty for the students who spoke Korean no matter where and what the situation was. Although I suffered from inconvenience at the first time, I slowly and naturally got to know how to pronounce properly, speak complete sentences, and make correct grammatical formation. As a result, I could acquire English subconsciously in the integrated-skills. Unlike most of the ordinary Korean students, I could balance my speaking, writing, reading, listening, and grammar abilities at the same time.

Secondly, both the ‘Involver’ and ‘Enabler’ typed foreign teachers increased the efficiency of teaching English. ‘Minimizing TTT and maximizing STT’ was essential root of Ewha’s lectures. There were quite a few assignments every class, which was preparing presentation about certain topics, or making project as a group. Spending much time on my assignments, I could always notice new knowledge about English. In addition, involver teachers always made exciting and great classes with clear instructions, ICQs, and CCQs. Diverse kinds of activities including ice-breakers, GTKY have made difficult grammar and reading classes much easier and more interesting.

Last but not least, the three EAR qualities of teachers – empathy, authenticity, respect enabled all students to have confident on English skills. I believe that one of the most important factors of learning English is confidence. Students should not be ashamed of making mistakes when they speak, write, or read in English. Furthermore, regarding the student’s mistakes, teacher’s wise conduct and feedback can finally decide student’s capability. All teachers in Ewha were great teacher with careful respect towards students. They kindly gave clear instructions before activities and never minded repeating those explanations. Whenever I had difficult times understanding studying materials, they never scolded me, rather they understood on my shoe and explained until I got the materials clearly.

To sum up, looking back my first successful memory of learning English, I feel very thankful to curriculum and teachers of Ewha. By always maintaining strict English-speaking environment, I could naturally absorb English just like how I acquired my mother-tongue Korean. Furthermore, all teachers of Ewha has doubled the result of my English ability. They were not only qualified in academic aspects, but also were warm-hearted teachers with empathy, authenticity, and respects. In the long run, I could realize what and how I should do for my students as a teacher from the first experience of my successful English learning.