My experiences of learning English

Mia (Mi, Song)

Mar 21 th, 2015

Times Tesol 110th WK

Mr. Goger

Not a few of Korean think English is one of difficult language, Even they start to learn it since they were young. I was also belong to them. I wasn’t good at speaking English and wasn’t interested in. I was hate English moreover the native speakers. So whenever I imagine about my future, the English would have not included. But one day, suddenly some thinkings crossed my mind. I had studied English all of my school life, but still I couldn’t speak, even greeting. Yes, right. It’s true. But, had you ever done your best for learning of it? I wanted to say “yes”, but I couldn’t then my final answer was ‘NO’. So I decided to give me one more chance to learn it. If i fail this chance again, I’ll never learn it again ever!!  At that time, I just want to give me last chance, but now I’m really interested in English. From now, I’m going to tell about a few of episode about the reason why I like English.

1. Could, Would, Can and Please.

This story was happened when I was in Australia. At that time I was working at Asian restaurant as a chef assistant. My head chef was from Singapore called Roger. He got anger and yelling easily. One day, he was sitting next to me. We didn’t talk anything. after few mins was passed. He broke the silence and asked, ”Would you like to have one?” he held out a chocolate bar which is my favorite, I was scared but I tried to be courage myself and said, ”Could I have one? that is my favorite” I just guessed his answer is only ‘yes’. But unexpectedly he said, “Yes, please”. I was curious why he used that polite expression. so i asked him “Why did you add ‘please’ behind ’yes’?” he said ”when I share something of mind with someone, I realize i can make someone happy by using those expressions. Now it becomes one of pleasure in my life. ”

2. At Post Office

That story is when I was in Australia. I needed to send a parcel to Korea. At that time, it was my first time to went to the post office. I had lined up for asking because I didn’t know what should i do. then it was my turn soon. so i asked to officer. “Hi, I just want to send this box to Korea, but I don’t know what should i do.” She just showed me a small paper and said, “You need to fill this paper in.” after then she just called new customer, even i didn’t get it. I sat down near the table and started to fill in. ”I think…ok… here is name, here is….mobile phone? Ok… bla bla bla..” and I stood a line again. When it was my turn again, I asked her very politely again. “Sorry, I’m trying to fill it out as many as possible, but still I don’t know which questions should I need to complete, could you help me?” after when i finished to ask, Suddenly her face was softer than first time and her behavior as well. She was staying with me till I had done. I was great thankful for her help. and think about when i was on my way to home, My polite expression can change the other person’s behavior easily . After this situation, I decided to study more about polite English expressions.

3. At International Airport

When I had just arrived at Airport, I was pretty nervous because everything was unfamiliar and didn’t know anything, when I was looking for gate, one of foreign woman passed me with a smile. My face was getting stern and second, third as well. I thought seriously that do I have a funny face? Or… OMG… is it the racial discrimination? After a few days, I knew the reason why they did. Because it was just the way of their greeting culture. Even haven’t met before. Actually they don’t care what we are wearing, where come from. They just want to eye contact and greeting with others.

English gives me pleasure of learning language also it teaches me how to care for others. Actually I’m not a native speaker and when i use English, I should think about many English rules. Surely I need to learn a lot of thing about English and it’s still hard for me. but my challenge is not finished yet. So i try to learn it before i give up.