A second Language Environment

TESOL Class # 140

Teacher: Dulles Schafer

Name: Woo Jin, Kim

(Jennine)

Have you ever studied for a second language? Or have you ever been lived aboard? So many people want to live in multiple-cultural environments to get self-improvement, a better future for themselves and their children, so that is why a lot of people try to emigrated to new countries every year. and the is increasing.

First of all, when I was ten years old, I studied English. It was my first time learning a second language. My elementary school English class was twice a week. The teaching consisted mostly of listening and reading so whenever I came home I tried to memorize English vocabulary because there were so many word tests. I was required to study English for over ten years, and I like learning that even though my English was far from perfect.

Secondly, When I reached my 20's, I am really wanted to become a stewardess for Asiana or Korean Air, so I restarted my English study. I studied harder than before to get a good test score. However, I found out I was totally afraid of foreigners. I don't know why but whenever I met foreigners I could not say anything and could not understood what they are said.

Eventually, I decided to go abroad to study because I thought I could improve my ability if I was in an English environment. I visited the Philippines for three months and lived in Hawaii for six months. Thanks to my decision to go abroad, I learned a lot about the Philippine and Hawaiian languages (English as a Second Language (ELS) class) and culture. It was rewarding and memorable experience to me also I will never forget.

Lastly, there is English fever in Korea these days. So many Korean students should study English for the college entrance exam, and parents spend for sometimes expensive private English educational courses. So if I were young again, I would learn culture first and then I would focus on speaking and listening with local people, because in a second language environment, I can more easily understand and have more motivation. I learned from my previous experience, and I am aware of how I can set goals.

Additionally, if I had a chance to teach English to elementary school children, I would not want to give the students the same environment I experienced. I want to provide them a better environment.

References:

Jim Scrivener (2010). Learning Teaching - The Essential Guide to English Language Teaching (3rd edition). MACMILLAN BOOKS FOR TEACHERS