**SECOND LANGUAGE ACQUISITION**

**The first second language environment I experienced was in the middle school, high school and university for 13 years. They were typical teacher centered traditional classes with chalk & talk lecture. Teacher emphasized on teaching grammars to read and translate. I think they achieved the goal to make me to read and translate somehow with lots of effort and time consuming. However, I was a deaf and a mute in English, so it was total failure.**

**Learning second language is not all about reading and translation. Rather ability to listen to others and express oneself is more important since language is a tool of communication and art to develop discourse.**

**I understand all the teachers were taught in the same way and they simply didn't know what to do.**

**After graduation from the university, I was motivated to study English to be a missionary in English speaking country. I was fully motivated and self-directed. Though I didn't have English classes, I had decided to have morning devotion in English; reading the daily passage of the Bible and explanations. It took 2 hours for less than 450 words, but when I did it faithfully the time was shortened. Then I read Sunday sermons in English every week. It was interesting, because I choose the theme I loved to think of. Those faithful self-studies helped me to lay good foundation in reading with more vocabulary, syntax.**

**Since I went to Nigeria in 1996, I had one to one Bible study with native university students every week. That was just perfect way for me to learn English with different techniques from various methods. I could develop my listening, speaking and writing skills through that. One to one Bible study made me to lead the study preparing the materials with various themes that drew our attention and passion. Though I was a teacher for Bible, I was a student in learning English. The humble native students listened to my Konglish patiently. Truly mentoring others and discussion in group in 2nd language was the best techniques for me to develop listening and speaking skills. Additionally, I wrote summery and application base on the Bible study every week and shared in group. It was not text based, but much more creative and free way to have deep conversation.**

**It was such a privilege to work with intelligent Nigerian university and college students who were excellent native speakers. I deeply appreciate for their patience and tremendous support for me. They were excellent teachers who made me to lead the class while I was poor in English.**

**Now I have an excellent facilitator in Times Tesol who teaches me how to teach English. He is such a good listener and gives us chances to think, discuss and share in second language. His dynamic approaches to give effective and motivated learning environment is good role model. I have confidence that I can grow as a good teacher who can teach second language with much more dynamic way.**