**Assay**

**(Language &Learning)**

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Think about your language. Learning experience in English or any other foreign language you have studied. What were somethings your teachers did that were effective? What were somethings your teachers did that were ineffective?

Firstly, for me, English study group was very helpful to enhance my English skills more than I got taught by a teacher. We were taken our turn to be a teacher in every meeting. We prepared our own lecture to teach each other and tried to make others involve the lecture. The members of the study groups were all grown up and had reasons to study English. We had a different experiences in work, travel, and so on, have different gender, preferences to teach or learn, and have different English skills. So that each one could bring various method to deliver their lessons. Mostly, we were debated for a certain issue a lot. For instance, do we have to go to University? Why or why not. We shared our opinion about it at first, then ask each other about the different thinking of them. Here we all could develop verbal, logical, interpersonal, intrapersonal intelligence. We were also having a game. For example, one brought a picture with a ferry and let others think what would be happen after this picture. We made our own story after looking the picture. Next one said like there may be a mermaid under the water. And another one said the mermaid was chased by someone. And the story was going on. The leader for that day summarized all the story that people were made. The story was so fun that everyone were laughing at it. Here we developed visual, logical, and verbal intelligence. We had a dictation after watching a TV drama such as desperate house wives. This was a kind of homework. Each person watched the TV drama and dictated what the actor or actress said. We were not supposed to see the script. For me, it was very helpful to learn some idiom and know how to pronounce some words. Therefore it helped us to improve our verbal, visual, and logical intelligence. Unfortunately, we were not bring a song or having active games to the class because most Korean are not used to have them during the lesson. The level of the member was various from false beginner to H-intermediate. Learning English by doing many kinds of methods were very effective because each person has a different preference. Though I have a visual modality when learning language, I love to listen to other thoughts for a certain issue and do some activities during the meeting. In an English study group, our teaching style was Enabler. The leader of the meeting for that day should know the subject matter well. He or she could choose one of the various types of teaching methods which were familiar with him or her. The leader would not just deliver some knowledge for the subject but encouraged other members to actively participate it.

Secondly, traditional teaching was my least favorite when learning English. I used to have a traditional classroom from elementary school. A teacher wrote the lecture on the blackboard and talked. We wrote it in our note-book to prepare the test. We could memorized it well until the exam but after all, we forgot it. I think it’s not because we were stupid but because of the tool the teacher were taught by. There are four language skills such as writing, reading, listening, and speaking. What we do most during the class was reading. The teacher’s roll was to explain the grammar in a sentence while reading a book. Therefore we couldn’t talk with foreigners in English although we’ve been studied for over 10 years. The teacher should think how to teach for his students to develop these four language skills and know that each student have a different ability when they were learning. Some were learned better while listing and talk and some were prone to make a rule for it and learned. From my memory in middle school, English teacher wrote everything in a blackboard and he read it. He was very strict in a rule like homework, lateness, and attitude. He never made a joke. Most students didn’t like his class because we were very afraid of him. He should show some kindness to the students because we were just graduated from elementary school. His teaching style was between explainer and Involver. He knew his subject very well and familiar with teaching methods. He sometimes hit the student’s hands with a stick when students didn’t do homework or did not reach a certain score. So he could control the class. But he’s not tried to teach it by using many kinds of teaching methods. His teaching style was not Enabler. He wasn’t great to communicate with his students and never give a control of the class with students. He had to try some methods when teaching us at least for the students not to lose their interests.