My language learning experience: Good and Bad ways

Jonghwi Lee

Acquisition of language learning became essential in modern society for all people in need of better life. Therefore, ways of teaching in order to provide the best learning experience have developed over the years. Depending on which type of learner whom individual is, the type which they prefer to learn will vary. All learners have different preference of method of learning language since efficiency of different types of learning will vary by personals.

Referring to my own experience, I believe applying (writing) and acting (speaking) are the two most significant factors when learning language. Since the primary idea and main purpose of language is to enable communication between people, it is crucial to practice how to communicate to one another clearly. Back in the very old days, when formal language such as English did not exist, people had to use body signals in order to communicate with one another. Body signals had lot of limitations; people had limited ways communicating their ideas to one another and had hard time understanding what others were trying to communicate. To solve these problems, people came up with ‘language’.

The ability to apply and show what individual formulated through his or her idea is critical when learning language. For instance, Mr. Park, who was my consultant and also my personal English teacher back in high school years, gave me immense amount of essays to write on every week. This not only helped me to have stabilized English skills but also helped me to become creative thinker. Since having stabled English skill is heavily dependent to fundamentals such as spelling and grammar, my teacher and I spent lengthy amount of time focusing on improving my grammar and spelling. Also, by writing load of essays, the capability to critically think on particular subject in English enhanced.

The proficiency in speaking English, acting out what individual wants to communicate by voice to one another is crucial. For example, Mrs.Portillo, who was my Spanish teacher throughout my whole high school years, encouraged students to speak Spanish at anytime in the classroom. Since I was new to Spanish back when I first started learning Spanish in grade 9, I struggled. I had hard time to even speak out a single word because I was afraid of making mistakes in front of my teacher and fellow classmates. Speaking out in wrong sentence structures or mispronouncing were the biggest fears. However, once Mrs.Portillo knew that I was struggling to speak, she helped me overcome the struggle. Classroom activities such as interviews, analyzing a picture or a video by speaking and such were provided. In addition to that, whenever I made a mistake, she encouraged me to keep trying until I felt confident in that particular sentence or situation. Through the years, not only my pronunciation became rich but also gained confidence when speaking Spanish.

Areas of learning to focus differ depending on which field of study individual decide to learn. However, when acquiring to learn language, I believe applying (writing) and acting (acting) are two most significant factors.