**Effective & ineffective experience in learning languages**

In modern society, people experience a lot of education. Formal learning experience usually starts from kindergartenup until post-secondary education for most of the people. Some people even expand their learning experience longer than that.However, not every study finishes as successfully as we expect.

As a member of this society, I also have had many years of learning experience in many different types of study. Some were memorable and effective, andsome were not as effective.

As a good example of an effective learning experience, I remember a teacher Jessica, who taught me when I first started studying English in Canada. In her classes, students had to prepare for a short presentation every week based on issues from the news. There were 2 groups of 4 to 5 students and both groups prepared for the presentation from Mondays to Thursdays and Fridays were the actual presentation days. Students had to go through the newspapers and decide topics. We discussed and shared information about the topics. We came up with ideas on how we present, who will present which part and etc. Jessica recorded a video while we were presenting, and played it after for us to see how we worked and the entire class discussed about it. We got feedback from the teacher and from other students as well. It was not easy to complete the whole process and I personally felt so much pressure, but when I reflect, I think it was the most effective practice to improve my English. The main reason why I think it was the most effective class may be because teacher did not try to be in the center of the class all the time, but gave students chances to lead the class. By making students talk and discuss most of the times, it was not a typical *traditional classroom* anymore and she was an *enabler* type of teacher.

Also, students had to put a lot of efforts and should remember almost everything to conveyprofessional and accurate information to other students. It let us remember things we studied for a quite long time and from having to remember what we presented, I was able to express my points fluently.I now realized that *Teaching/Mentoring experience*teaching technique which is the most effective way to remember has been used in this process.

In addition, this process helped me observe myself objectively as a third party.

It is impossible for teachers to correct every single mistakes students make. By watching and hearing myself through the recorded video, I could catch errors, problems and many other things about my English.

Overall, through this presentation and recording process, I believed that I improved *all types of language skills*.I had to *read* newspapers, *write* things on the paper and create my own presentation sheets, *discuss* with team members and *speak* in front of people, and also *listen* to other students’ presentation as well.

On the other handsI remember another teacher Jeremy, as an example of ineffective learning experience.He was very energetic, entertaining and knowledgeable, but he was always the one who talks all the time and students barely got a chance to talk. He did not use any other materials such as images, videos, or any other visual resources for us to help understand and engage in his lectures.It seemed like he was a typical *explainer* type of teacher and the way he taught was not effective to me at all. As a *Tactile-kinesthetic* kind of learner, Ihad a hard time paying attention to him for a long time as he let me just sit and listen, consequently it was hard to remember what I have learned after.

Based on my previous English learning experiences, teachers must give students multiple chances to get involved in the classes in various ways. Having to go through the process of presenting in front of others helped build my language skills in various aspects. Teachers should also try to motivate and encourage students to have a proactive and enthusiastic mindset to acquire a successful learning experience.With all the different types of learning approaches I have experienced, I found Jessica’s method of teaching to be the most effective. The techniques and lessons I’ve learned in my English education will continue to be a valued asset to my overall skills in language.