A Second Language Environment that I Have Experienced

**TESOL 189th**

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I have a successful experience to learn English from my high school. The teacher, who made a good environment for me, named 'Mr. Yoon'. He gave me a good learning experience in my life. While taking his class, I became motivated to learn English, even a kind of intrinsic motivation came up from my heart. The several reasons I consider his teaching skill was good are written below.

First of all, he used an effective way of learning. His class had a high STT(Student Talking Time), but a low TTT(Teacher Talking Time). His class had a lot of discussions & communications going on between the teacher & students. It was different & more modern than other teachers who took a traditional teaching way 'jug & mug', 'chalk & talk'. His teaching skill is mainly based on a flipped learning style that is considered as one of the effective ways of both teaching & leaning. We usually had an assignment to take a multiple choice test before attending his class. And, we discussed about the answers and the reasons why it was correct and why not in English. It was not a piece of a cake at all for us who were not used to speaking in the second language. However, this kind of activity automatically made students involved to the class highly. The more chances we had to talk our own ideas about the subject matters during the class, the more students got interested in the English, and wanted to take his class and studied with him.

For example, I was not keen on the English at all, and had a very low score on the exam of English before meeting him. I thought I could never got along with it. However, his teaching way changed my point of view to the English. As I pre-studied what would learn at the next class in advance, there was no such a stressful feeling to learn the language. Moreover, answering his questions and sharing my idea with others became fun. Time goes by, I was getting higher interest to English, also higher score in the exam which I had never expected before. If I did not meet him, I would never set a goal which is having a conversation in English fluently with foreigners before 24years old.

Secondly, he has a good rapport with the learners as he showed respect. The successful class can depend on a good rapport. Having it creates comfortable atmosphere which let students feel enjoyable to learn something. I believe that it is more essential for the second language class. In Mr.Yoon's case, a good rapport happens as his attitude was respectful to his young, but not young high school students. As we all know, the high school students prefer to make a decision and do things by themselves like adults, and they would like others to recognize them as they are. I suppose he totally understood the characteristics of his students and tied to respect them.

For instance, he always listened to students during the class. He always asked us about our assignment that is mostly related to our workbook. We had to tell what the correct answer is and also why we selected that answer in the unfamiliar language. When any of us tried to explain things, he carefully listened to us without any immediate judgement. More impressive point of him is regarding some students who had a wrong answer and unique ideas, he showed his real respect to students' opinion by saying everyone could think in a variety of different ways. As I was one of the normal high school students passing through the sensitive, emotional period at that time, it was very moved, also could not avoid attracting him as a good teacher. In his class, making mistakes was also reasonably acceptable, which encouraged us to speak in English. This whole process could build up a good rapport between the teacher and students.

Additionally, he let students participating in his class use the integrated skills (Listening, Speaking, Writing, Reading). Sharing opinion in English, listening to other people speaking in English, reading & writing English for doing the activities of the workbook were all there.

To conclusion, according to the above reasons, I suppose that I have such a successful experience to learn the second language when I was high school student. I met such a good English teacher from the high school. I can surely say that he provided me a good environment to study the second language.