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**Essay Topic: My experience of L2 Acquisition – a Success or Failure?**

L2 Acquisition is a way of learning a second language after our first language has been learned. According to **Stephen Krashen’s hypothesis**, Acquisition is a more effective way to learn a new language than studying. It is similar to the way people learn their first language. My experience of L2 Acquisition was quite successful. In this essay, I will discuss my experience from when I first acquired English at age 24 to the time I recently stayed in Hong Kong.

When I was in 24, I had a chance to go to Alaska USA as working holiday. I was working at a salmon processing factory. When I was got there, I could not speak English at all, which means that I have exposed to English only environment. I often worked with Americans as pair work and group work. We had a friendship, and we talked about the same topics as food, movie, culture, etc. this environment, just like **modern teaching**, really helped me acquire English. According to the **Three Learners Modes**, Kinesthetic learners are most successful when totally engaged with the learning activity. As I leaned L2 as **Data-gatherer** and prefer to learn by doing, I could acquire English fast by working in Job. Before I went to Alaska, there was no opportunity **for speaking and listening at all, and some reading and writing** would be done only limitedly in school life. However, working with native speakers helped me acquire English as **experiential learning I learned in class is supported by Learner Retention.**

After I worked in Alaska, I moved to Vancouver, Canada, and began working in a restaurant. It was a new situation for me in the service industry. **Six principles very relevant to me:** working, taking order English meals, communicating with my colleague, and talking to customers are the perfect environment for my Acquisition.

The acquisition of a foreign language is always a matter to me. I got married when I was 31 and had three children. My wife and I have decided to go to Hong Kong, and we lived there for three years. Living in a native country is by no means a guarantee for the individual to acquire the local language successfully. I have exposed to another language, which is Chinese again. According to **Malcolm Knowles's study,** when teaching adults, it's important to find their relevance to their lives and allow them to have practical experience. This was applied to either. Although Hong Kong people mostly speak English, I needed to read a Chinese menu in a restaurant. It was a very **dynamic classroom** to create more engaged and active to acquire language with many interactions.

While we were living in Hong Kong, my wife and I educated our children as homeschooling. We choose the American school curriculum for our children, which is another challenge for us. Watching my children learn English, I could experience that English can acquire as a language, not as studying. Mainly, I was surprised that I could improve my English while I was teaching my children. It makes me remember what I learned in class is supported by Learner Retention Rates, **teaching, and mentoring others is the most effective way** to remember well what I was taught.

My children acquire English fastest when participating in music, singing, dancing, watching movies, shopping, and other active activities. One of the great things about us humans is that each of us has a unique personality. A person's character has a huge impact on how that person learns most effectively. One of the best things about homeschooling is that we can tailor our homeschool program to match my children's individual personalities. This is quite a contrast to a formal school where everyone in a class is taught the same methods and materials. For the kids who happen to be best taught with the institutional approach, this is fine. Those who would learn better in a different way have to do the best they can. Therefore, as a teacher, I want to take some time to understand each of my student's basic personality so that I can choose the kind of materials and teaching methods I should use to reach them most effectively as I leaned from **Individual Learner Differences.**

In conclusion, acquiring English has been difficult, but through meeting natives and natural communication, I could acquire what this essay has taught to be. I want to be a teacher who helps students acquire the language in a communicative way instead of just studying it.