**Essay Topic : My experience of L2 acquisition**

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In terms of learning second language, there are two ways. First one is Acquisition and Second one is Studying. Acquisition is very similar to the environment when learning a native language. In this way, language is automatically accumulated in the subconscious. It remains in my memory by being naturally exposed to the environment in which the language is spoken. When you study language, you have to memorize so much information, but it can be easily forgotten. Studying might be boring and difficult. Luckily, when I was young, I was in an environment where I could learn language naturally. In 2011, I felt that my English study was stagnant. So I decided to go abroad and learn English. I remember what happened then as clearly as yesterday. I will discuss my experience from the time I was in Malta.

When I went to Malta, I was afraid of everything. Before going to Malta, I traveled to foreign countries a lot, but I was always with someone. In Malta, I had to deal with everything by myself. When I first visited English Institute to resister, I took an exam consists of reading, listening and writing. It was my first time taking an exam in English. I was very nervous, but I did my best. After taking this exam, I had an interview with one of the teachers. Based on the result of the exam, teachers **assessed my language proficiency.** I gotlow intermediate level. At that time, I did not find it hard to speak with a native speaker in English, but I only used basic English vocabulary and simple learned phrases. Grammar and vocabulary were good, but listening and writing were a bit lacking. I recognized my shortcoming of English and I decided to learn more and more. The manager said there are many discussions together and cooperative learning. When I was in Korea, I got used to taking a lecture and It was so boring. So I expected this **learner retention rate** a lot.

When I took a class for the first time, I was surprised because of the way of **Effective Teaching** skill. My homeroom teacher was Danny. He had a good sense of humor and everyone liked him so much. I looked forward to taking his class every day. He established a good **classroom dynamic.** Sometimes I was confused whether I was taking a class or watching a comedy program. He knew how to find **Individual learner differences**. He knew that everyone is different, but everyone likes to have fun. Furthermore, he said If the teacher creates a pleasant environment, every student will focus on the class easily and their efficiency of learning will be improved soon.

Before coming to Malta, I got used to taking traditional way of teaching. Usually in Korea, the teacher concentrates on the class and the students only listen. This kind of education is quite common. Most of Korean people tend to think that the purpose of education is to get good grades. So the teacher put as many things as possible through the lecture and make the score come out well. But when I was in Malta I realized that **modern way of teaching** is more effective. Danny was a true involver that is one of **the three teacher types.** He explained English happily and let the student discuss all the time. He gave so many chances to the student to speak and share lots of stories and idea. Thanks to this experience, I became confident when I speak with foreigners. So I became a **data gatherer** and supported a modern way of teaching.

Sometimes, Danny asked me the purpose of learning English. He asked me to think about what I tried to gain through the language. As one of the precious tool, he made me to find out if I could benefit the world using English. He found my Intrapersonal skill which is one of **multiple intelligence theory** and strengthened. I could take the time to think about me and the language.

In retrospect, when I was in Malta, the joy of learning a language was particularly great. Unlike Korea's conservative education, I got a broader perspective of language. Danny showed me how to approach the language differently. I don't know if I can be such a funny teacher like him in the near future. However, I want to be a teacher who gives joy and happiness like him. (738)