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My Experience of L2 Acquisition - a Success or Not?

The language learned through the subconscious acceptance of knowledge, which the information stored by the use of communication is slowly learned yet enjoyable. This natural way of learning language is called acquisition. I experienced my second language acquisition during my teenage years after my family immigrated to the State.

When I immigrated to the State I set my goal to enter a university. I believed that I can learn something more interesting at a university even from the young age of fourteen. But when I took an English level assessment test, it did not satisfy **the assessment language proficiency**. I expected to be in a higher level than ‘ESL(English as a Second Language) class level one’ since I already was taught and exposed to acquire English through visiting America before. I requested to be moved up in my English class so I could accomplish my goal which I desperately want to achieve. And this volunteered motivation has witnessed the characteristics of **Malcolm Knowles theory: internally motivated, self-directed, and goal-oriented.**

When I moved up from ESL to Language Arts, I had lots of hardcore reading homework such as 'The Lord of the Flies' and 'Shakespeare' that were too advanced for me to understand. My high motivation was effected by high anxiety and made my self-esteem low. It did not help me to improve my English which is supported by **the affective filter hypothesis of Stephen Krashen’s theory**. The **rapport** was bad, because there were no connection between me and my teacher which made me a quiet and unnoticeable student. It also did not meet my needs of **the individual learner differences.** The cultural difference in my expectation of a teacher was to be taught and cared for but my teacher was unapproachable. But later, I’ve met a new teacher who has helped me to boost my motivation high enough that I was able to believe I can achieve the goal I had. He has challenged me with **comprehensible inputs** which were one step above my English level. This is also supported by the theory of Stephen Krashen. **The qualities of an effective teaching** were shownas he was very respectful and approachable even though my English was spoken in broken forms, and he was also patient with all of the participations I've made in the class that affected my classmates to react positively to create fun and energetic **classroom dynamics**. This experience helped me to lower my anxiety and to enjoy English comfortably.

My experience in Biology class was one memorable **traditional classroom.** My teacher was the only one who speaks out the lectures. This made the students to be passive to just listen and write what is on the board. We always had to study individually on our own desks which mad**e** the classroom dynamic low. This class has given struggles to catch up the English for me instead of learning Biology due to my low skills of listening and vocabulary. I’ve found **the Explainer** type of teacher doesn't apply well on me when I learn something because I had a hard time to understand the subject by words and without any visual resources.

One of the most positive experiences of how I acquired English as a second language was through good friends and the music. This experience supports **the interpersonal** and **the musical intelligence** from the **multiple intelligence theory.** At the end of my teenage years,we were just playing some board games, hang out to eat, singing and playing music together or visiting Disneyland. All we did was just being playful, silly, and chat constantly about many different type of things. I was able to acquire my second language very naturally through this friendship. I was able to speak without any hesitancy or any concerns of inaccuracies and ingrainederrors. This liberated setting from the language provided me to grow as **Data-gatherer**s.

The growth of my second language was very slow at first, but I was able to finally just enjoy learning within the relationship once I got acquired more freely to the language. Although there were some negative times, this experience has made the positive experiences of acquisition more valuable. Therefore, my experience of a second language acquisition was one valuable and successful experience.

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