Name: Tina

Class Number: 223WD

<My experience of L2 Acquisition – a Success or Failure?>

Acquisition is subconscious acceptance of knowledge, which occurs naturally. I can say that my acquisition of L2, English was a success. To explain my experience clearly, I will describe my experience from the time I first started learning English at age 6 to now, this moment when I'm still learning English.

To speak of the start of my English, I just cannot skip the **rapport** between my first English teacher and me. Since I was a little kid, there was no clear motivation to learn English at all, which meant I was distracted easily. However, my teacher showed her fabulous **qualities of effective teaching** -enthusiastic and patience. She combined some funny physical motions with every word she taught, for example, flicking fingers to make a sound to draw my attention. Furthermore, I was totally able to make errors. Even if I made uncountable mistakes, she encouraged me to try again, just saying ‘I know you can do better, let’s just give another shot’, and it eventually made me confident to speak up no matter what. So, if someone asks me which **type of learners** I am, I can say that I am more like a data-gathered type. I am a sociable person who is not afraid of inaccuracies or some ingrained errors when speaking English but enjoys communication in English very much.

As I got into the elementary school, I must take English classes in school. thanks to the earlier start, I was pretty familiar with English, so my speed of finishing exercises was remarkably faster than other classmates. Luckily, my teacher was a person who could find out **individual learner differences** among the students. Every time I got finished earlier, she gave me extra work to do.

Throughout the process, My English level surprisingly jumped up. If now I have a try to give an **assessment of language proficiency** of me at that time, I would say I jumped up to the high beginner level without struggling.

Entering into the middle school, I was much more involved in grammar thing than before. Since I was prominent most in logical and mathematical area out of all **the multiple intelligence** and grammar is closely related to logic, I found grammar very interesting, which led to good scores in English as well. Of course, the key role of my teacher also helped me make huge progress. My teacher in the middle school was definitely an involver, if I classify him into one of the **three teacher types.** Whenever we read or listened to some materials, he asked me or us to point out important grammars and explain them to other student, never telling us those knowledge so easily. That kind of teaching method had a big and also positive influence on me, especially on my **learner retention rates**. Because of the technique the teacher used, which was involving the students in explaining, or even teaching others, I liked to be questioned by other students, so that I could test myself if I remembered what I was taught by answering them. It was also very effective to strengthen my auditory mode, which was my weakest mode of the **three learner modes**.

Now, as an adult, who is internally motivated and self-directed, I agree with the theory of Stephen Krashen, which says affective filter matters on **second language acquisition** especially for adults. After my teenage years, I feel less pressure of English, since I don’t have to be anxious about my English scores any more and there won’t be any judgements about my English, either. But I still enjoy English very much, because every time I find myself expressing what I want, I can feel a sense of accomplishment, which is a strong motivation and self-esteem as well. Less anxiety with enjoyable motivation and pleasant self-esteem makes me acquire L2 rather than study it.

To sum up everything I said above, I can make a conclusion that my acquisition of L2 is a satisfactory success. Also, this assignment has taught me that, for students aiming to acquire L2, it’s very important to meet the teacher who can help students emerge with English without struggling and strengthen the strength while making up for the weakness.

Word count: 715