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My weak subject

Do you like English? If I were asked this question, I would answer "no." I was the worst in English class since I was in primary school because I couldn’t understand anything. I was very worried about how to study English. I'm not sure if it was the best way, but here’s how I studied English before becoming a university student.

When I was in primary school student, I attended Kumon. The main focus of Kumon was speaking and listening in English. It was hard work because we had a lot of homework every day. For homework, I would listen to English audio materials and practice speaking. When I went to class, the teacher would check my speaking every time. I was nervous during these checks because if I made a mistake, I had to start over. In Kumon, I mostly focused on speaking and listening, so I didn’t understand grammar at all. When I was in fourth grade, I took the Eiken exam. I could do the listening section, but I was shocked to find that I couldn’t do the writing section at all.

When I started junior high school, I was very impatient because the only writing test we had at school was a writing test. I didn't understand grammar and vocabulary at all. So, I focused on learning grammar and vocabulary to get test scores. At the time, I was able to get good marks in school tests using this study method, so I didn't realise that it was a bad study method. I survived the high school entrance examinations with a study method that relied almost entirely on memorization, and I entered high school without realizing my mistake.

In high school, I could hardly do listening and speaking because of how I studied in junior high. I also felt anxious about the listening questions on the university entrance exam. Most of my English study was through cram schools, so I watched video lessons from Tosin. I studied grammar and long reading comprehension through these lessons. For listening, I practiced every day using past and predictive materials for the Common University Test. I listened to the audio at 1.5 times speed. Once I got used to fast English, the normal test audio seemed slow and was easier to understand.

  To be able to study English, I first had to learn vocabulary, so I focused the most on that. I was unlucky and had the strictest English teacher in high school. There was a vocabulary quiz in every class, and the most difficult part was the monthly tests on vocabulary and grammar. These tests were very difficult, and the average score was about 15 out of 50. Anyone who scored less than 20 points had to stay after school for a make-up exam. As far as I remember, most of the class had to take the make-up exam. Of course, I only got about seven points.

 To be honest, I still don't know a good way to study. So, if you guys have any good study methods or methods that work for you, I'd be happy to hear about them.

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