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My Language Autobiography

I am not the man who can easily learn the other language. But I always wanted to succeed. Do you think I can do it? Here I will try to describe what is going around the English study in my country, Ukraine, what the barriers I faced to overcome in learning English, do the English is important for people in my country and why I am personally still want to succeed in studying English.

Let me start from the fact that the English is not the official language in Ukraine. There were no TV channels, newspapers and books in English language in former time, when the Ukraine was the part of the Soviet Union. The old people mostly was learning Germany in high school, not the English. The situation changed a little bit now. The children start to learn English in the elementary school, there are a lot of special classes with deep English study and I think there are a lot of good teachers. I was in the middle between the old and the new times, started to learn English around the six grade, and did a little more during my Master program at Kharkov State University. But there where not many needs in English after that, the English language is still not official language in my country, there are still no English channels in TV, and if you do not need to use English in your everyday work, you will lost all your English skills quickly.

The situation changed for me when I decided to apply for graduate study in the United States. Because it's almost impossible to learn English by yourself in my country, I decided to go

to English private class. I started from elementary level and it was really hard for me. First, it was almost 10 years after my graduation and I completely lost all my English skills. Secondary, I am was never good in study of any, even my native, language. It was always struggle for me and I never did understand the rules how the language works. So I started from the elementary levels and tried to learn as much as I can. I spent almost two years studying English two times a week in private class. But when I come here I realized that I completely did not understand what people saying to me. It was so disappointed and a little confused. Even now the understanding of other people is struggle for me. Even more, I noticed, that other people do not understand what I am trying to tell them, just simply because my accent is terrible. But I hope to overcome some of my personal obstacles and that is why I am taking this class right now.

Today my country is coming to the United Europe, and the study of foreign language becomes the important part in Ukraine. We need the English to freely communicate with other countries. More and more young people and their parents are understanding that now and start to learn English hardly from the elementary school. Even old people realized the importance of knowing English and started to learn it and used in their everyday life, for example, in business communication or, just simple, to make more friends and to enjoy the holiday time abroad.

There are several reason for me why I am learning language. Firstly, because the language is always struggle for me, I want to fight with that, just because I live it. Secondary, I am right now the graduate student at ISU, and hope to get a good job in one of the national research laboratory. Do I need a good English skills to succeed? Yes, right, I do. And finally, I want the happy life for my children. And as long as I will learn English, my children will do the same. Right now my daughter are at second grade at Washington Elementary school and have a

lot of friends here. She can communicate with them without any problems! And my small boy are two and half years old now and his language right now is the funny mix of Russian and English words. I need compete with my children! Hoping, one day, I will enjoy with my family watching the nice American movie fully understanding what's going on around.

To conclude, that was my little story about why and how people learn English in my country, why they think the English skills is important for them now, how I started, what I think my barriers in learning language are, and what I expect to achieve. Do you think I can do it? Of course, I do.