

Learning from Experience

Once, there was a web developer, who graduated from a high quality university with a high grade. He knew how to code, theoretically. With this background, he was hired in a big company and started working there, but he faced many coding issues, constantly. He had to go to his supervisor and ask for help many times, and his supervisor was not happy about it, at all. After a while, this web developer had no coding issues, and his supervisor was happy, at this point. He learned more through experience than reading only books.

Learning through experience can help one become an expert in the field he/she is working. A musician can never become a great performer only through books. She needs to practice, to find her problems while performing. As an example, she may know how to do a *vibrato* on her Cello, but if she doesn't practice, she won't become an expert in doing a vibrato. A web developer may know how to design a web page and what programs he needs to code, but through coding he will face some issues that he had never found in books. The same argument applies to even a physician. A physician may know the theories and mathematics. She knows if a ball falls, it will hit the ground at a certain speed, but through an experience she finds out that the speed is less than calculated speed with theory. She finds out that she hadn't noticed the air resistance.

Experience helps understand the theory behind the concept. Just reading books can only let one know and memorize the theory and methods, but through experience one can truly understand them. The musician may know from books that vibrato changes the feeling of the musing, but only when she tries it in experience,

she finds out how the feeling is changed. The web developer can read what a function does, but it is through experiencing that he understands how the function works and how he should handle issues that may happen through coding. The physician knows all the formulas in the physics. But she needs to experience those formulas to really feel what and how that law impacts the real world.

Learning a concept through experience can help memorize the concept better. Experience makes the concept rooted in the learner's mind. If the musician doesn't experience vibrato in her practices, she may forget using it in her performance. Practicing and experiencing the feels of vibrato help her memorize when and how she should do a vibrato. She may know all these from books, but she probably forgets in her performance. The web developer may have read that he has to use a certain function when facing a certain issue, but he probably forgets the function or how to use it if he hasn't experienced it while coding.

Reading books to learn is very important, and one must not forget to do so, but it is not the only way, and most importantly, it is not enough. It is through experience that one truly learns. Either in the way of becoming an expert or memorizing the technique well, one must experience what he read. Many people are just bookworms, but it is important to gain experience in the field they are reading.