**Interview\_3:**

1. **Which language are you learning ?**

English

1. **What’s your native language?**

Japanese

1. **Why are you studying?**

The first reason I started learning English was because my mom sent me to an English class when I was 5 years old. Now it is because I know having a good skill of English is super beneficial for everything.

1. **When did you start?**

When I was 5 years old.

1. **What was the hardest part of learning the language?**

For me it was grammar. I still make many mistakes.

**→ Why do you feel grammar is the hardest for you?**

Because I started learning English when I was a kid, and the English class was all about singing and dancing and having fun with English. They didn’t teach me any grammar, but I obtained some basic simple conversation skill. I stopped to go to the class when I was 8 years old, and then when I was 13 in junior high school, the English class was all about grammar. I got confused because it was explained in Japanese with difficult terms, and I was struggling to connect them to my knowledge.

**→ Did you think you should have learn grammar first ?**

Hmm No. I think learning how to speak and listen to English first was good for me because it’s more natural and it is important to be able to speak without thinking too much about correct grammar. Many of my friends who started learning English with grammar are having trouble with speaking, because they pay attention too much to grammar and can’t speak English naturally. Grammar can be learned afterwards like I did, though it was sometimes so confusing.

→ **Can you explain more about why it was confusing?**

One of the reasons was because I memorized some sentences in a wrong way when I was a kid. It was confusing when I see sentences which seemed like wrong to me but actually was correct. And second reason was because starting with grammar was just not my way of learning English. I was used to learn English with my body by listening and speaking, not with my brains.

1. **How do you practice speaking?/ how many hours a day? /Any tools?**

So when I started learning English, it was in the English class for children. I attended the class once a week, and I think each session was for 30 mins or so. We sang English songs, played some English games, and sometimes we wrote simple letters for our parents in English.

**→Was the teacher native speaker?**

She was Japanese, but I think her English was as good as a native speaker.

1. **What was your best method for practicing speaking? Face to face, texting, reading or movies. Etc??**

Face to face, 100%. And I think the younger you are, the easier it is to learn.

1. **Did you practice with native speakers, other students or alone?**

So the teacher in the English school was Japanese but she had very good English, and other students were Japanese children. In the junior high school, I don’t really remember if we practiced speaking… we must have, but it was not the main part. The main part was reading.

1. **How did you find a person to talk (practice) the language to?**

Class.

1. **How did you stay motivated when learning a new language? What made it fun?**

When I was a kid, it was just fun I think. I liked the English class because for me it was just playing with friends. After I entered junior high school, the motivation was to get a good score in the exam. Now that I’m working, and my motivation is to communicate better in English with my coworkers, because some of them don’t speak Japanese well.