

How I learned

My first self learning experience was when I was in my second standard. In class we had to by heart and sing Hindi poems. And Hindi being a foreign language it was difficult for me to memorize as I could not understand the meaning in each line. Mostly my teacher told me the word translation to English. But the line as whole was not making any sense to me. I have grown listening to old Hindi songs and it surprised me that despite not knowing what these songs meant i would be able to easily sing the whole song by listening to it once or twice. So the added character of tune and reciting made a difference in learning. That realisation that you can add your own elements to learn could be bluntly called my eureka moment.

The second one was connecting the subjects that you learn. So my father had found a strategy to teach us subjects together to save time. But this leads me to connect the dots between linked topics like evaporation and rainfall which were repeated in multiple contexts in different subjects. This became a new way to learn.

The time I started leaning calculus was a nightmare. And slowly I realised it was not calculus but the teacher who taught me calculus. But the strategy was competing with myself. The joy of tackling the problem without any hint and getting better somehow was rewarding to me as learner.

Dance learning was something like a life changing experience for me. The art of storytelling through moves and expressions always mesmerised me. The concept that you are in control of what other people are thinking was a strong revelation at the age of 15. The stage is space where you could direct your way of thinking of an audience. Maybe that moulded my architect or space visualization capability.

Time and again I do wonder did I learn things the right way. Whenever an clear concept gets cleared in my head in the course of progression I always look back and wonder 'what if I had known all this then'. The child in you will always regret the way in which you understand something.