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To Develop My Listening English

My challenging point in English skills is listening. I could not earn good points in the previous term, and I noticed I should train it myself out of the class.

First, my brain takes too much time to understand English I listened. There is a little time lag to understand the structure of the sentence after I hear English. While I attempt to comprehend what I heard, the speaker continues talking. Then, I get confused and miss the most important point of the story.

Second, I have to increase my vocabulary. My brain tries to resolve the structured sentences to word for word or idioms when I heard English. However, if there are words or idioms I do not know or I cannot guess, my brain gets into a panic and work not well. Then, I lose the points in the story I am listening, and I realize I am really poor at listening English every time. Increasing English words I can catch and understand will improve my listening skill.

I think one of the solutions is having practice everyday. Actually, I use the book for expanding readers' vocabulary everyday. It has many English sentences, explanation in my native language, and CD which has pronunciation examples by native English speakers. I have tried to imitate the pronunciation of the examples while I listen them. It gave me some advances, but it's not enough. That's why I started a new listening practice recently. TED, which is a website consist of many famous and various presentations, can be a good tool. I find a speech I got interested in, and listen and watch it without subscript at first. Then, I play it again with subscript in the second try.

When I realize I can understand all of what they are talking, I try to shadowing without help by the transcript. I believe it is going to help to develop not only listening skill but also speaking skill in English.

I think one of the most important and practical means for me is just repeating same or similar material every day. Of course, trying new speeches and new books is also needed, but I should get used to things organized native English. If I could learn a good speech in heart or do shadowing, it would be easy for me to understand the story I listen to and catch the important point of it. The goal in this term is that I would learn to enjoy speeches in TED without subtitles.