

Developing Language Ownership: An Autoethnographic Perspective on Transformative Learning

Authors : Thomas Abbey

Abstract : This paper is part of an ongoing research addressing the experience of language learners in developing a sense of language ownership in their second language. For the majority of language learners, the main goal of learning a second or foreign language is to develop proficiency in the target language. Language proficiency comprises numerous intersecting competency skills ranging from causally listening to speaking using certain registers. This autoethnography analyzes lived experiences related to transitioning from learning a language in a classroom to being in an environment where the researcher's second language is the primary means of communication. Focused on lived experiences, the purpose of this research is to provide an insight into the experiences of language learners entering new environments and needing to navigate life within another language. Through reflections, this paper offers a critical account of experience traveling to Baku, Azerbaijan as a Russian language learner. The analysis for this paper focuses on the development of a sense of language ownership.

Keywords : autoethnography, language learning, language ownership, transformative learning

Conference Title : ICALPLLT 2024 : International Conference on Applied Linguistics, Principles of Language Learning and Teaching

Conference Location : Vienna, Austria

Conference Dates : June 20-21, 2024