Instructor : Mr BOUNADJA Semestre: 2

Level : First Year / LMD

Module : SHS

Course : Affects in Language Learning:Feelings and emotions

 Second or third language acquisition is a common occurence in many countries of the world. The linguistic environment of these countries require or encourage the knowledge and use of three languages. Consequently the number of trilinguals is increasing. Not all trilinguals are trilinguals as a result of choice. They may be bilinguals who move to a community in which a third language is used. Success in the aqcuisition of an L3 for such students is based on proficiency in the L1, the recency of the other languages spoken,linguistic distance between the languages and inter-language transfer.

 Researchers have found that being a trilingual has many benefits. These are related to the global economy, including job opportunities as well as educational and socio-cultural benefits. Knowing three languages opens the doors to multitude of opportunities and enhances understaning and appreciation of diversity in the world. In addition, it increases self-esteem in the students of foreign languages. According to Ricciardelli(1992), multilinguals are more creative and have better problem-solving skills than monolinguals. Their ability to approach problems from a variety of angles is seen to be a result of tools acquired through learning an L2. Moreover, it is noted that abilities in the L1 will have a positive effect on many subsequent languages learned.

 The need to consider one-self is growing with diversity of students. To ensure success in the future, schools need to consider L2 and L3 learning. Multilingualism has many benefits in the long run. Some of them are employment opportunities in education, the diplomatic corps, and tourism arise from knowing more than one language. In regards to education, language learning is a ‘value-added’ benefit of not only developing a second language, but also building cross-cultural skills at no cost to other educational goals. Multilingual students have access to people, places and information available in other languages. Students learning additional languages also have cognitive advantages: competence in more than one language enhances their educational experience. The final benefit is the socio-cultural aspect of language learning. Knowledge in other language allows people to expand their knowledge of the world. This in turn leads to greater understanding and appreciation of diversity.

 Similar cases are today obvious in many parts of the world. Students of African, or Asian origins enrolled in French schools will be involved in various situations where the use and perception of languages is higly recommended. The parents are in favour of their children learning an L3, and all maintaining a strong link to their L1. The L1 promoted and used in the home environment, and all the families are in frequent contact with families and friends from their countries of origin. All of the students will be conscious of the advantages of knowing three languages, and they can consider themselves lucky.