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My experience in the Bilingual Education Project

I was afraid. Being part of the bilingual project was really an important decision to me, but after 4 amazing years I realised that it was the right one. My English skills developed as my abilities in all dimensions did, with no doubt, this project made me grow as a person because the energy you may spend for an effort, gets always multiplied as advantages. You may wonder why were you afraid and why was it a critical decision? As simple as having to decide as a foreign teenager who studied primary education in a non-bilingual school, having her first contact with both Spanish and English languages. Now it may sound nonsensical but, trust me, the moment was important.

As I came from a non-bilingual school, I had to pass an entry exam and I can tell you that the feeling to know that I was accepted meant a lot for me. It made me believe that it was really possible but even so, I knew that I had to work hard. I can still remember that my insecurity wasn't done here, it lighted up the first week the lessons started, when a teacher asked me if I was sure about being in the bilingual project, as he could appreciate on his class list that I came from a non-bilingual school, above all it was another detail for me to make my "yes" bigger and demonstrate it.

All decisions in life are because of "x" reasons, and we mustn't forget that love is included and it may be the main engine for well done objectives. That's my case, my love and passion for languages, especially English was so big that having an extra English hour per week while other classmates go home, was enjoyable. The English subject taught me what you can't imagine, but I'm going to talk about the opportunity that gave me to travel without moving from my desk, yes, travelling in the way of knowing about culture, traditions, special days, the way people celebrate *holidays*, about main celebrities and more, because it was not just reading about it but learning it from the life experience of young people who came from UK itself. I have been in contact with Arab culture since I was born, adding Spanish one while living here and discovering others while studying! What more could I ask for!

Being part of the bilingual project also made possible to include book titles on my reading list that otherwise I wouldn't have read. Working on them, preparing *oral presentations* and sharing content in class was the best way to tell "this book is done". I broke one of my biggest fears: talking in public, I developed writing skills, knew about science in English, made a speech, learnt to spend more time for difficult issues, tried again and again and surely the list is much bigger if I go on deeper details.

Thanks to the bilingual project, all was possible, and more important than the marks was going through all the steps with enthusiasm, doing things with your heart because you knew that the effort was really worth.