Research Update

Originally, I thought that I would focus more on the acquisition of the language. However, after talking to Dr. Tajima more, I’ve realized that I think I will gain more insight by focusing on his use of English now as opposed to how the learning of the language affected him. I honed in on what it means to be a second-language English speaker in a world that so highly values speaking English well. I determined what makes certain parts of English so difficult. I let Dr. Tajima "lead the way" as to what he wanted to discuss and after giving him options, I allowed him to choose which trouble spots he wanted to discuss. These are:

1. Vertical vs. horizontal reading
2. Transitioning from a ideographic/logographic alphabet to a phonetic, Roman alphabet
3. Spelling and pronunciation, specifically in regards to consonant-consonant-vowel words that are common in English
4. The effect of computers and their limited ability on his linguistic capabilities (i.e. How does the fact that computer keyboards cannot have all of the Chinese/Japanese characters affect his ability to effectively use the computer?)

References

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