

LEARNING BY TRIAL AND ERROR



It is often referred to the process of trial and error as a trivial way of acquiring knowledge. As I see it, I am from those who believe that self-learning plays a vital role in today's society. Being able to, fully and independently, learn something on your own in a world in which information has never been so decentralised, is again, key. Bearing in mind that the internet has been an absolute “knowledge wise breakthrough”, getting younger generations to know how to get the most out of this remarkably amazing tool will certainly make the difference.

You may be asking yourself why did I go through this first... well, reality is that self-learning usually embodies the so-called, trial and error. I'm not going to lie, this is not the easy way of learning something, but it is surely the best way of making it stick inside your long-term memory. During the process, you will feel lonely, you will even feel stuck, and that's ok!

We are used to this clichéd way of thinking that learning is a two-way street; furthermore, we tend to place all of our hopes in the traditional system in which the process of trial and error is not embraced enough. This would explain why whenever we have to face this trial and error phase, a vast number of people quit and give up.

However, as it is said, hard work pays off! Personally speaking, coding is one of the disciplines I know I have to go through all the time, for instance coding a website. Every now and then, I've found myself wanting to implement a new feature and all I could do was limited to having a go with some lines of code and then crossing my fingers to see if it worked. The level of happiness and satisfaction given when I finally got through is definitely worth all the previous “mental-pressures” that this process makes you feel.

Long story short, understanding how our brains work is invaluable and as I've previously stated, taking that lonely and bumpy "learning road" is the best way of making something stick. In my case, I'm still improving my coding skills and I won't forget those times when I had to sit down and go through an insane amount of time just trying out something new and deleting it if it didn't have the expected output.

Don't take my word... take a nice deep breath and get the necessary courage to explore this way of learning!

Aris Martínez 2º BACH

