

Difficulties of Learners in English: A Task-based Approach

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Abstract

English is a language which is spoken all over the world. It is a global language. Nowadays, English is considered as a powerful weapon in the professional world. In India, we have English as a second language. Yet learners struggle in learning and speaking in English. Learning English is not easy. Learners of English language face many problems. In rural areas, students hesitate to speak in English. Their problems include how to learn and how to speak English. This paper deals with the difficulties faced by the Learners in English and how to rectify those problems.

Keywords: language, speaking, learning, difficulties, rectifying, task-based approach

Introduction

Language is an art, learning another language is a skill. In India especially in rural side learners are learning English as a second language. They struggle to speak in English. Learners who are from rural side and slum areas lack in their English knowledge and skills. They can improve their learning through some exercises. This effort will help develop their skills.

Objective of the Study

The principal aim of the study is to deal with the learners who are reluctant to use English exclusively through a task-based approach

Hypotheses

The following are the hypotheses of the present study: (1) Learners face difficulties in their learning and (2) they don't know how to learn English and they are unaware of necessary tools to learn English

Research Questions

- 1) What are the difficulties faced in learning English?
- 2) How to overcome these difficulties?
- 3) What are the problems faced by the learners?
- 4) Why are they struggling to speak in English?
- 5) Why should they learn English?

Discussion

Difficulties faced by the learners in English begin from their early school learning. In India learners learn English as a foreign/second language. Learning second language is a challenge. They hesitate to speak in English because of their environment. They have limited learning environment, which means no facilities, no proper equipment, no proper class room, not many trained and skilled teachers. So, the environment is very important to them. In most cases learners put their effort to speak in English only in their class room. While learning, they may be interrupted by what happens outside their classroom and in local streets, etc. As a result, it becomes a problem for learners to learn English with great devotion and seriousness of purpose. So, peaceful environment is a must for the learners.

The proper equipment includes learning materials, a very essential part. The 'book' is a very good friend to the learners. So, the initial tool is 'book' for the learners to learn English. Then the teachers will guide them to read books. They, both teachers and students, must know proper pronunciation by the help of 'audio-book'. Through that they can get the correct pronunciation. Teachers should help them to read books. Later teacher should ask them to read correctly. After that, the pronunciation will be easy for them.

Learners' main problem is English grammar. Each and every one is facing this problem, because English is a foreign language and has vocabulary and sentence structure somewhat different from what we have and use in Indian languages. So, it is very difficult to learn. Teaching method should be changed to help develop language skills. Learning English is under the care of teachers. They can enrich the skill of learning. Learners must be stimulated by the teachers. Teachers can teach English in many ways. They can arrange the students in several groups and let them to play some games which is related to their learning.

Then, show some pictures and play some videos. Surely it will kindle their learning effort. Through this, learners will be fascinated towards their learning. Initially, teacher can use their own language to explain and give the meanings. By this, students may feel free and happy, and feel more comfortable. After this step, little by little English can be introduced to them. This method surely helps the rural and first-generation learners to learn perfectly with curiosity. Through this they can rectify their difficulties in learning.

Some learners face problems not only in their learning, but also through their family background. Many facilities are available in our society, but they can't learn adequately because of their situation. Poverty is the main reason for their pitiable situation. It restricts their learning. They are having a passion for learning, but they can't learn because of this reason. They are economically backward. So, they can't move easily into the modern current world. By their status they are getting limited education. So, they lack in their knowledge. Because of this they can't get a good job.

In our society people judge the learners by their family background. So, they can't get enough exposure. They still lack in their knowledge of English. They do not have good language

skills because of their family back ground, which does not provide them with motivation and facility. It leads them to economically backward condition and it restricts their moving forward

Then learners struggle to speak in English because they hesitate to speak in English. They need motivation. Teachers should motivate their students. Every learner will be able to move forward with their teachers' effort to motivate them to learn English better. Teachers should cheer them up using positive vibrant words. Surely it will reduce their inferiority feeling. Then the beginners are mocked by others when they try to speak in English. It is very wrong, those who know English should help others to learn. They should not mock at others. They should simply just try to understand what these new comers are trying to say. Then they will be able to correct the learners with some sympathy ad appreciation.

With such help learners can improve their performance in English. They need encouragement. Learners need confidence. This confidence is given by the teacher. Teachers should not divide students according to their performance in English. It will reduce the students' confidence level. Techers should not imitate the students' performance to create laughter in the class. So the teacher must be an encourager, not a discourager. Learners hesitate to speak in English because of they are not sure of their quality of performance and they do not want to become a matter for ridicule and laughter in the class. They certainly can improve themselves with the help of teachers.

Nowadays English is a powerful weapon. By this weapon we can survive and prosper everywhere. English is a global language. In our country also, we need English speaking people for many fields. Nowadays people tend to respect us or judge our skills and achievement by ability to speak English. If we are well-known to speak and write in English well, then automatically our social status increases. So the students must show enthusiasm and attention and be careful in their attempts to develop their English skills.

Summation

While learning English, learners face many problems. They learn English as a second language. So, it's not an easy task. Learners must make an effort on their own to continuously improve their skills in English. They should not let themselves to be discouraged. They can survive and prosper in this world through a mastery of skills in English. Learners should make greater effort to develop their English language skills. Nowadays many students seem to have better knowledge of English better than their teachers. At the same time in some areas students have very poor skills in English. Learners must understand their situation and try to improve their skills. We can't imagine a world without speaking English. Learners must use their teacher's guidance to develop their knowledge of English. In my point of view English is an essential language. At least we should learn English for our career. It will enrich our personal and social status.

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