Language in India www.languageinindia.comISSN 1930-2940 Vol. 17:11 November 2017 Dr. S. Jayanthi, M.A., M.Phil., Ph.D., Editor Select Papers of the National Conference on Teaching of English Language and Literature Sri S. Ramasamy Naidu Memorial College, Sattur 626203, Tamilnadu, India \_\_\_\_\_

# **Mastering English Language – Some Suggestions**

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#### Abstract

English language has turned into an easy and faster medium of communication to meet both professional and personal needs. It's a vehicle which transmits in science and technology, a tool for business. It is a channel for life and literature. It has created a special place for itself in many countries. To master a language one should start using it frequently as practice makes anything perfect.

The World Wide Web has many websites that offer professional training in English language which can mould a person into an eloquent orator. However, one needs to exercise care and caution while selecting such online tutors. The best choice will be exposure to a native speaker or direct tutor who is an expert.

#### **Keywords:**

#### Why English?

English is one of the vastly spoken languages of the world.

English has adopted many words from Latin and French which have undergone change in meaning and some have vanished altogether. Nearly 15% of the French and Latin words that are in Old English died and a few got a change in meaning.

#### **Future of English Language**

Growth in language is primarily a matter of population. Two things should be considered for the growth of English language. The expansion of British Empire in seventeenth and eighteenth centuries led to the English speaking nation (Great Britain) controlling about over a quarter of the surface of the earth. Russians and Spanish followed subsequently. To state in numerical point-of-view the three great languages would be English, Russian and Spanish, but it seems like English-speaking nations offer many openings compared to other two (Example: US,

Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa). To conclude, English language is provided with best facilities for expansion, be it natural or immigration. Based on this, one can predict that English will be spoken by high number of population and used widely in every field of growth.

There are two angles for an influential language. Relation of words of a sentence through variation means Synthetic Language. Extensive use of prepositions and auxiliary verbs, to rely on these word orders to show similar relationships is known as analytic language. Modern English language is analytic and old English language is synthetic language.

#### **English – For a Demanding and Successful Career**

English language has turned into an easy and fast medium of communication, be it professional or personal. It is a vehicle which transmits in science and technology, a tool for business. It is also a channel for life and literature. English has become necessary for a demanding and successful career in many parts of the world, including China these days. In India, without knowledge of English, success in corporate jobs has become impossible. Government exams are given in English. In other words, even when Hindi and other Indian languages are important, English has become the dominant medium of communication.

#### How to Improve English Knowledge and Use?

#### **Observing and Listening**

In order to have correct pronunciation one should be a patient listener. Observing the pronunciation of words or the stress on the syllables of native speaker will definitely enrich one's language (spoken or written format). If that's not possible, check tutors or a movie for that matter. Listen carefully and try to imitate the intonation and stress patterns. Try for the mouth movements for the production of sounds initially and then extend the same to words, phrases and then sentences.

#### **Use of Dictionary**

Another way is to check phonetic script of a particular word or phrase is to use a dictionary. Condition is to follow a standard dictionary. Use of dictionary is considered to be helpful not only in bettering one's pronunciation but also in enriching one's vocabulary. In a normal dictionary, every word may have different meanings based on the usage (noun or verb).

## **Daily Practice**

As English is mandatory in many parts of the world, only right recourses will help a nonnative speaker master the language. Though the right form of communication and English

speaking cannot be taught theatrically, one can follow a pattern in training one self. It's quite possible for a person to overcome the fear of committing errors while speaking English.

Newspaper reading may sound rudimentary, but it helps in recapitulating what was taught. Finding new words and perfectly tailored sentences will help a novice to build techniques for improving vocabulary and become a confident speaker. There are situations where a deserving candidate has lost an opportunity due to poor English sentence structure or even a strong native language accent.

## **Right Training**

Without a professional's help, one can't find right pronunciation and intonation when speaking. To overcome this, try BBC news or any English news channel, for that matter. Children's books or comics are the best way to start out learning words; phrases are simpler in children's books when compared to advanced ones such as novels, news, articles, etc. Never hesitate to use words that are familiar; ones that are difficult to pronounce can be cross-checked with friend/teacher/online/dictionary.

Even though a full-fledged classroom instruction is great, practice/exercise is great if one can get the help of a native speaker. If direct (native speaker) help is not possible, turn towards TV shows that are in English. This is a less laborious task when compared to reading books. Practice session is also possible by imitation of words and phrases.

Thanks to the advancements that technology has brought in, today, one does not have to step out of the comfort of one's home to accomplish a range of language learning tasks. The World Wide Web has a large number of websites that offer professional training in English language which can mould a person into an eloquent speaker and even as an orator. However, one needs to exercise care and caution while selecting such online tutors.

#### Listening/ Pronunciation, etc.

Make a list of terms that are used frequently but are difficult to pronounce. Without help, training and guidance, this Herculean task will be insurmountable. Once the words and their meanings are mastered, the next task will be to master the grammar/ right sentence structure. Written communication plays a vital role, be it when applying for a job or writing a cover letter or even when expressing one's viewpoints.

In order to make correct presentations in the professional arena, one could try digital writing with text block that will highlight any grammatical errors. By doing so, the errors can be corrected easily. Writing is one of the important tools to express both professional and personal

view points. Even though the advent of technology has replaced the normal mail with electronic mail, there has been no change in the medium of expression.

Finally, with the help of Internet a lot can be accomplished. Free and paid videos or instructional videos of English language can be browsed on the Internet to educate oneself in addition to availing the services of a real time trainer.

#### Conclusion

One huge difference between English language and other languages can be seen while translating the connecting words. Apart from English, other languages tend to employ many words at the commencement of the sentences that turn into connecting words or phrases in English. While translating English we see 'and,' 'but,' and 'because' in the middle of sentences, whereas in other languages we see words like but, therefore, in addition, furthermore, and moreover.

In logical sentences we do not need connecting words at the beginning of the sentences. Words are tailored with coherence /logic, not with introductory words/ phrases.

There are two standard pronunciations and spellings, one is British English and other is American English. While formulating the learning strategy, try to be aware of these two. Best method to learn any language is by staying with the one who is a native speaker, as the learner will have direct exposure to the correctly used language and imbibe the same from the speaker or the trainer.

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