

The Challenges in Teaching English

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1. Introduction

Teaching learning process is a two way process which involves interaction between the students and the teacher. Here the teacher informs and imparts the knowledge on the particular subject. He removes the ignorance of the student on a particular subject. He tries to make the student more informed on a particular subject for which he or she is the teacher. If the subject delivered by the teacher is understood by the students then we can say that the teaching learning process is effective. The teacher must teach the concept in a practical way. The concept should teach in a lucid way so that the weakest student could understand it. A successful teacher is one who makes the weakest student understand the concept and learn the subject with interest. He is responsible for motivating the developing interest in the subject. The teacher must clear the fundamental principles for the students so that he could understand the later complicated concept easily.

2. Teacher's Role

Teacher's preparation of the content to be delivered is must. He must understand the concept and principle thoroughly before delivering it to the student. His expert knowledge of the subject would definitely help candidates to develop the knowledge and skill necessary in the classroom.

A teacher must be well prepared before entering the classroom. He must refer more number of books on a topic before delivering it in the classroom. His command on the subject will instill confidence in the students. He

can command more respect among the student community.

A teacher with good preparation will definitely produce a very high student achievement. Every educational organization must invest a substantial amount of money for teaching and training of the teacher before they take up the first teaching task.

All research and findings show that high quality teacher preparation is important. A well prepared teacher always outperforms those who are not prepared.

A teacher must consider it as his moral responsibility to deliver the best to the student because each and every minute of a student's life is precious. He should not waste the time of the students by doing and taking rubbish things just to engage the hour. Each and every second, the student is molded and he should be molded to achieve the objective of his life and parents. The teacher must help the student to reach his objective in the best possible way.

The four skills required for learning any language

1. Listening
2. Speaking
3. Reading
4. Writing

The above four skills must be developed to become expert in English.

3. Listening Skill

Of all the four skills, the most important skill is Listening skill. Listening is considered as the most fundamental skill. It is the beginning of all the learning process to learn a language. Listening means '*hearing with attention*' as per the Webster dictionary. The student must develop this skill to develop other skills. This is one of the foremost skills. A good listener can grasp and understand the concept very easily. He can easily read and write if he is a good listener. The student must spend time listening to English from a competent teacher or good speaker of English. He should develop his listening skill by concentrating on the speaker and not assuming himself about the information. Listening is a skill which can be developed by slow and steady practice methods. The listener must give importance to the speaker. He must have curiosity to learn more. A child initially hears the sounds from his surroundings before it utters the first word or sound. If the child hears good language from his parents or relatives, the child develops the language very easily. So a good listening Skill is foremost to excel in a language. It helps in increasing the vocabulary of the students. This skill helps in understanding the meaning of various words and also helps to form meaningful sentences.

A student must spend listening to English news channels and watch adventurous Hollywood movies. Students can also spend watching Science fictions in English. He would become familiar with language and style of the characters in the movies. He himself would be able to adopt the style through imitation and make it as a part of his language.

Watching English movies and listening to television news channels and spending time in front of good speakers in seminars and conferences would definitely enhance the listening skill. One can also listen to radio talks and news to improve the listening skill. The students must be attentive in class. Listening in class is called *Focused Listening* because we must give maximum attention focusing on the subject being taught. They should appreciate the content and speech of the teacher and also be analytical to synthesize the already possessed information with the new information. Listening to television and radio come under the category of *Casual Listening*. But both type help in improving the language. The more we listen ,the more we become expert in the language.

We can understand others through Listening. The students in future would become a professional and those professionals who possess excellent listening skills become very important members of the workplace.

Effective listening skills help in good customer service, enhance better workplace relationships and prevent misunderstandings and conflicts that may take place from poor communication. Today most of the organizations organize listening workshops and activities to make their employees familiar with the listening process. Listening skills activities will enhance communication in an organization by teaching employees how to listen effectively.

4. Speaking Skill

We can develop speaking skill by constantly finding opportunity to speak with others in English. Students must communicate with their fellow students only in English. The instruction to students in classroom and laboratory should be in English. Every situation should be utilized to communicate in English. One should not be afraid of speaking wrong English. As time goes, the errors would be rectified automatically. Every attempt should be made to overcome shyness and communicate in English. Every effort and positive action will lead the student to the path of better English. But effort on the part of students must be continuous. They should have passion and determination to learn and communicate in English. Then they will automatically speak English. Every time one must strive for excellence in the art of communicating in English.

Students must participate in Debates, Seminars, Extempore and Conferences at school and college level competitions organized on the occasion of annual day.

Practice speaking every chance you get! (Example: ordering coffee, shopping, asking for directions, etc).

Students must be a voracious reader to be good speaker. A loud reading would enable good mechanical movement of the speech organs for all kinds of pronunciation for effective communication in English. An involuntary articulation of speech organs can take place by constantly pronunciation of the words and sentences continuously.

A good Speaking of English enables a student to excel in academics and also during interview and group discussion for a job. It helps them during their professional life and climbs the ladder of success in his career. So, speaking skill is must and must be practiced continuously to be an excellent speaker during a presentation or while attending an important meeting.Students should not be afraid to make mistakes! The more he speaks, the faster he learns! That is how one learns English! They can also join a free conversation group.

5. Reading Skill

The dictionary meaning of Reading is the ability to read text, process it and understand its meaning. An individual's ability to comprehend text is influenced by their traits and skills, one of which is the ability to make inferences. This is one of the important skills to learn the language effectively.

One can read English newspapers like *The Hindu*, *Indian Express*, *Deccan Chronicle* and *Times of India* or online articles from internet to improve the skills. They can also visit some of the websites like British Council and LearnEnglish.com.

The students must read children's books, Grammar books like Wren and Martin. They should also improve their vocabulary by referring to standard dictionaries like Oxford and Webster. Students must have the habit of visiting libraries for reading Newspaper, magazine and story books. They must make friends with people from other countries so that they are forced to speak in English.

6. Writing Skill

Good writing skills are essential for better communication. Learning to write well takes a lot of time and practice. One must allot sufficient time to develop this very important skill. A student must develop writing skill for putting their thoughts down in a journal or write a letter to a friend, and create a story that springs out from their imagination. He must have this skill for writing good answers in the university examination for scoring high marks. This helps him to score better CGPA. A strong command over the language is required for the pen to move smoothly on the pages creating texts, stories, essays, plays and novels. Writing is not just mechanical but also creative. One must know how to write introduction, body and conclusion of his work.

7. Conclusion

Teacher must utilize student experiences, interests and real-life situations and give instruction in English. The student will easily understand the language through their own experience.

Teacher must show an understanding and in-depth knowledge of English language. They must start with the importance of English Language in the present day concept and how it is also known as the link language connecting people across the globe. English is widely spoken language and the ladder to success for those who would like to work in multinational companies and earn a very handsome salary. They must also be taught about the history of English language since English borrows much of its words from French, Greek, Latin, Hindi, and German and still is growing by incorporating words from other languages; hence English is very flexible and ever growing language meeting the communicating requirement of the world.

The Student competent in English language responds to meaningful questions put forth by the teacher as a part of the testing mechanism. Students must increase their vocabulary and sentence formation in English. Student must be able to connect ideas across content areas through English language. Student must be able to communicate knowledge and understanding for a variety of purposes in English. All the above can be accomplished by enhancing the four skills known as LSRW skills. So the art of Listening, Speaking, Reading and writing is must to improve one's language.

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