



English Learning and Teaching along with special reference to their skills

Dr. Shobha Kumari

**English Teacher, Project Adarsh Kanya H/S Cum Inter College, Pachrukhi, Siwan
Bihar, India Email: shobhamishra056@gmail.com**

Abstract

Teaching, as we all know, is a virtuous job, a challenging one and above all, a work of tremendous responsibility where the eyes of expectations keep hovering above us. A teacher is always expected to be excellent. So as a teacher, it is essential that before we enter the class we should prepare well with few of the qualities such as confidence, knowledge of the lesson, knowledge of the level of the learners and lesson plan. English language teaching skills must be learned if one wants to succeed in teaching English. Teaching skills refer to the policies, procedures, and provision designed to equip teachers with knowledge, attitude, behavior, and skills they require to perform their tasks effectively in the classroom and school. It is required that the facilitators, the teachers, possess a certain set of knowledge and skills to understand how and when various tools would best support their lessons. Learning English is important and people all over the world study it as a second language. Many countries include English as a second language in their school syllabus and children start learning English at their younger age. English learning can be made simple and motivating by focusing on the four skills; LSRW; i.e. Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. Learning English, as any other language, may be best done through immersion into the culture, Finding out ways people learn the English language with information and various methods such as The Structural Approach, Total Physical Response (TPR), Communicative Language Teaching (CLT), The Silent Way, Task Based Language Learning, etc. A few steps to start teaching English are to Keep it simple, checking the students' learning, Giving them lots of time to practice it, should show, not to tell, always use positive reinforcement and teaching should not be monotonous.

In this paper, various ways and methods of English learning and teaching along with their skills and its importance in day to day life are discussed in detail.

Keywords: Facilitator, Communicative, Motivating, Skills, Reinforcement, Monotonous.

Introduction

English is an important language in today's scenario. It is the 'window to the world' and people all over the world decide to study it as a second language. Many countries include English as a second language in their school syllabus and children start learning English at a very young age. Therefore, English learning and teaching both

should be made simple, interesting and attractive to the learners. Moreover, English learning can be made simple and motivating by focusing on the four skills; LSRW i.e. Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. A few steps to start teaching English are to Keep it simple, checking the students' learning, Giving them lots of time to practice it, should show, not to tell, always use positive reinforcement and teaching should not be monotonous.

Teaching English

Teaching, as we all know, is a virtuous job, a challenging one and above all, a work of tremendous responsibility where the eyes of expectations keep hovering above us. A teacher is always expected to be excellent. A great teacher is one who is always remembered and cherished by his students. Teachers have long-lasting impact on the lives of their students, and the greatest teachers inspire students towards greatness.. So as a teacher, it is essential that before we enter the classroom, we should prepare well with few of the qualities.

Confidence: A teacher should be confident while entering the classroom and he should have certain aims and objectives ready before he starts his class.

Knowledge of Subject Matter: This may seem obvious, but is sometimes overlooked. A great teacher has incredible knowledge of the subject and enthusiasm for the subject matter that they are teaching. They should prepare well to answer the questions posed in the classroom and keep the material interesting for the students.

The level of Knowledge of the learners: A teacher should be aware of the level of his learners so that it may be easier for him to teach his students.

Lesson plan: A lesson plan helps a teacher to teach in his class by fulfilling his objectives and keep him on the track.

Good Classroom Management Skills: A teacher should have good classroom management skills and can ensure good student behavior, effective study and work habits, and a sense of mutual respect in the classroom.

Strong Rapport with Students: A great teacher develops a strong rapport with students and establishes trusting relationships.

Stability and patience: A Teacher has to be stable towards his teaching and have patience for hearing and understanding his students' problems.

English language teaching skills must be learned if one wants to succeed in teaching English. Teaching skills refers to the policies, procedures, and provision designed to equip teachers with knowledge, attitude, behavior, and skills they require to perform their tasks effectively in the classroom and school. It is required that the facilitators, the teachers, possess a certain set of knowledge and skills to understand how and when various tools would best support their lessons.

Teacher training is important as technology is changing day by day and with those changes, the way the classrooms operate, the students tend to learn at an incredible rate. This requires that the facilitator, the teacher, possess a certain set of knowledge and skills to understand how and when various tools would best support their lessons.

Many times people use teacher education and teacher training interchangeably, whereas, education theorists distinguish the terms clearly. Training corresponds to learning real-life classroom skills for teacher preparation, while education refers to more abstract knowledge about modes of learning and instruction. When referring to the process of preparing future teachers, education specialists find "teacher education" is more reliable with the idea of developing multitasked, reflective practitioners with a wealth of professional knowledge. Training refers to acquisition of actual skills for meeting specific goals in a real-life, applied situation. For teachers, training might include how to be amiable and confident with their learners.

Learning English

English learning can be made simple and motivating by focusing on the four skills; LSRW i.e. Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. When we learn our mother tongue, first of all, we listen, then we speak, then we read and finally we write. Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing are the four language skills we need to develop the complete communication in any language. Listening and reading are receptive: input, i.e. It is the intake of the authentic language in use. Speaking and writing are productive: output, i.e. the action of producing language as part of the process of second language to be learned.

To achieve these four basic language skills, we need to expose ourselves to the language as much as possible, surround ourselves with English: make English a part of our lives at home, at work, during our free time. Practice makes perfect, which means that if you want to improve a certain skill, you have to practice it. As a beginner, the learner needs to achieve all four language skills, i.e. listening, speaking, reading and writing.

Listening

Listening plays a very important role in learning any language. Effective listening ensures understanding the language and it helps improve accuracy when speaking, among other things. You can improve your listening skills by listening to the language actively:

- To music paying attention to the lyrics.
- To movies, TV shows, news, entertainment, and the radio – you can watch the movie or shows several times and listen to the English channels on radio. While watching the movie, you should pay attention to how words are being spoken, i.e. articulation as it may help in speaking the target language better.
- Attend plays, exhibitions, talks, etc. in English organized by English speaking schools or communities.

Speaking

It is often assumed to be the hardest and time consuming of the four language skills, but as soon as you speak a little English, there are lots of ways to improve, enjoy and have tons of fun.

- Join voiced chats. Technology has advanced a lot in terms of social networks. So, wherever you live, you'll find a chat-room to join.
- Talk and record yourself. This may sound funny, but it will help you realize how you can improve your speaking skills by repeating the recording several times till you feel happy with the results.
- Talk to your classmates in English when you are not in class. You can even make a group to play games, have a meal or just chat together. Practice makes perfect, which means that if you want to improve your speaking skills, you have to practice it a lot.

Reading

Reading is an individual process and it takes time to develop your mind for it. You have to understand the grammar and structures of the language used in the passage to read. To develop strong reading skills, you can read:

- Books and articles in English. Try to start with easy books, even children's books and comics: The images will help you understand even if you don't know all the words.
- switch the operating system of your mobile phone, your PC or tablet into English. Associating a function with a certain word will improve your vocabulary.

Writing

Even though it may be threatening to a lot of people, anyone can get used to writing with a little discipline and a willingness to learn.

- Write down words or expressions: Develop a habit of noting down whatever you think is useful with their meanings and examples. If you see them in sentences, you will remember them better. You can use them if you keep a diary.
- Write comments: practice writing comments in English. Lots of people use web to expose their ideas on a certain topic or to explain things – from how to knit a scarf, to very complicated ones where technical or philosophical topics are dealt with.

In one word: practice, practice and practice!! Whatever learning style you have, whatever your native language is, the key to acquire and master a foreign language is PRACTICE it as much and as often as possible. And one should never give up, always be ready to learn from mistakes and be social so that it makes learning the target language easier.

Learning English, as any other language, may be best done through immersion into the culture, finding out ways people learn the English language with information and various methods such as The Structural Approach, Total Physical Response (TPR), Communicative Language Teaching (CLT), The Silent Way, Task Based Language Learning etc.

Conclusion

Learning a second language is as challenging as teaching it. So, it is equally important to make both learning and teaching simple, interesting and attractive through various innovative methods.

References

1. Published on: 30/06/2017 by Mary Milne

Last Modified on: 26/09/2018

<https://www.wallstreetenglish.com/blog/10-ways-improve-english-language-skills/>

2. <https://www.ukenglish.org.uk/top-10-tips-improve-english-language-skills/>

On August 18, 2017 By Atam Sharma In English Lessons

3. Teaching.org