

Methodology and Practice of Teaching English

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Abstract: in this article highlighted the different methods of teaching English. The aim of this paper is to show the use of innovative techniques for teaching English communication skill to learners. Novel methods such audio video aids, games, group discussions, role play, brain storm will provide an easy way for learning the English communication skill and increase the confidence of the learners.

Keywords: innovation, methods, role play, brainstorm, learning by doing, crossover learning.

English, the official language of the entire world is a very tricky language to teach. In fact every language varies to teach. English is a very old language and has undergone many forms changes from Proto English derived from the Latin and the German culture to the Modern English which was established after in the post Renaissance period. Each version was simpler than it's previous. Present day English is the simplest adaptation of a very old Language and yet it is still difficult to teach this language effectively especially to those who speak English as a second language. II. Problems with current methodologies In today's world English is taught in a very orthodox manner. The basic teaching is needed. Teaching the alphabets and the formation of the words is essential and a must. But there is something that is even more important. The children must be able to speak the words and understand their meaning before writing them down. The foundation to teach English can only be taught using the orthodox methods of teaching the alphabets and the words and the rules. But then teaching only the rules is found to be boring by most students and it is because of this that they lose interest in learning the language. Although there is no way other than the traditional one to teach the basics of the language these methods must be tweaked a bit so as to appeal to the students. When it comes to teaching English to students of higher classes who already know the basics the traditional methods generally tend to yield poorer results than innovative methods. This has already been proven by methods implemented like use of stories, poems, movies, books and newspapers etc. These methods help the students learn the language better without them actually realizing and also it keeps their interest. This paper will provide a few of such methods to teach English Language. III. Enacting the stories Stories form a very integral part of teaching a language. These stories help teach the students about the formation of sentences and how to express their thoughts and a lot of other things and plus they help in keeping the students interest alive as the story's end is something that every student wants to know. It appeals to the inquisitive nature of the students. Any unfinished story always keeps the mind of the reader agitated. Although this method of using stories has been implemented the procedure of teaching the language through it is generally not right. The evaluation procedure of testing the students in their proficiency over the language is through questions based on the story. This is generally not that effective. Due to this the students generally tend to take up the stories as a chapter rather than looking at it as an interesting read. A story is supposed to appeal to the creative part of the brain. It helps us be more imaginative, by trying to visualize the things that are happening inside the story. It should not only teach them the language but it should also help them in extracting a lesson from the story. Keeping questions for evaluation kills the entire idea of imagination for the students look at the story as something that they need to learn for answers. There is a better way of using the stories to English using stories. The students can enact the stories or the plays. In this way the students are personally engaged with the stories. They can bring their own interpretation of the character to life. It is interesting for the students to understand the characters and put themselves in their positions. It engages their creativity by allowing them to create the entire set, assign the characters and play it out according to what they had imagined. It also helps them understand other people's interpretation of the story and helps them have a healthy conversation about it which again helps them in learning the

language. It removes the dull aspects and makes the learning more colourful without jeopardizing the learning of the language. It may not be perfect but it will leave a deep impression on their mind. The story will help them learn the language as they will be enacting it by dialog which they will themselves extract from the stories and also modifications can be made to the plays to help the students be more interactive and creative. They can add more lines, characters, change the ending, bring in an interesting twist etc. The more creative the modification, more are the points awarded to the team. This also leads to personality development and helps them work as a team player and all the way the student was learning the language. For example if Julius Caesar was taught using the traditional methods of questions and answers the student would never understand the deep emotions of Brutus, the cunningness of Cassius, the loyalty of Antony, the tragedy of war, the brilliance in Antony's speech and many other such aspects of the story for which the story of Julius Caesar was written by Shakespeare. Similar is the case with all great stories such as Christmas Carol, Harry Potter, and all the epic stories. Emotions help define the story and they form a very important aspect of the language and one's personality. If these emotions are left out then it would be very difficult to express ourselves. On the other hand if such stories are enacted then every intention of the story becomes clear. The students have to immerse themselves into the atmosphere of the story and they have to put them in their positions. This entire process has many benefits besides being a very effective method of teaching the language; it helps preserve the literature, which is nothing but our culture. This method brings about the total learning experience that was meant to be provided by the story and in the end the student will definitely be able to answer questions without even preparing for it as an exam, besides the entire process is fun and not at all boring. Hence it ensures the learning process is complete. In the present time, English becomes the most important and vivid means of global communication which prevents our isolation from the world, and a window to the rapid progress and development in all spheres of life. It is the most spread and commonly used language among different nations and individuals worldwide for cultural and educational exchange. In addition, the use of English language becomes now a must not only at the level of local but global education as well. Nowadays, development of foreign language teaching technologies is important issue. Information civilization dictates new standards; any new knowledge becomes outdated quickly. In general innovative teaching of language means creativity and novelty of the teacher which changes the style and method of teaching. All over the world, educational institutions implementing new ideas, methods, and technology based innovations to enhance the students' knowledge in the sphere of English. Basically, teaching must include two major components sending and receiving information. Ultimately, a teacher tries his best to impart knowledge as the way he understood it. The use of innovative methods in educational institutions has the potential not only to improve education, but also to empower people, strengthen governance. The biggest challenge any teacher faces is capturing the students' attention, and putting across ideas in such a way that it stays with them long after they have left the classroom. For this to happen, classroom experience should be redefined and innovative ideas that make teaching learning methods more effective should be implemented. There are different types of methods to attract the student's attention [1]: Audio and video tools; brainstorm; classes outside the classroom; role play; puzzles and games; refer books on creativity; introduce lessons like a story. Innovative learning methods crossover learning; learning through argumentation; incidental learning; learning by doing science (with remote labs); embodied learning. Using audio-visual materials, textbooks with models, filmstrips, movies and pictorial materials and info graphics or other mind mapping and brain mapping tools in the session that will help learner's imagination thrive and grow. These methods will not only develop their ability to listen, but will also help them understand the concepts better. Another method of teaching is brainstorming. In context to teaching, brainstorming [2] is a strategy or tool of teaching used by the teacher in which maximum or all the students participate by responding or presenting views on one topic. This technique encourages new ideas among students which would never have happened under normal circumstances. First, a small group of students is formed. They are asked to sit in a group and are provided with a particular issue or topic. Teacher, as the group leader, then ask group members to think about the problem and give their ideas. They are advised to find as many solutions to the problem as they can find. They are instructed not to criticize others ideas but they are free to

make attentions to others ideas. Students are encouraged to put forward suggestions without hesitation even if they seem to come up with unusual and unorthodox ideas. Student's ideas are to be listened and accepted patiently, without passing any judgment or comment of any sort until the session is over. This method encourages the creativity and motivation. One of the methods is classes outside the Classroom. Some lessons are best learnt, when they are taught outside of the classroom. To organize field trips that is relevant to the lessons. The learners will find this fresh and exciting and will learn and remember the things taught faster. Moreover, teaching through role play is a great way to make students step out of their comfort zone and develop their interpersonal skills. Welcoming new ideas an open-minded attitude can help innovating new teaching methods. Though open-minded, sometimes most of us show reluctance to new ideas. Puzzles and Games Learning is fun where puzzles and games are part of education. Puzzles and games help children to think creatively and face challenges. While playing games, the learner's attention is on the message, not on the language. Rather than paying attention to the correctness of linguistic forms, most participants will do all they can to win. The main purpose is to make the learners talk and stimulate their imagination, curiosity and interest. Game of Sudoku, a kind of number puzzle is an ideal authentic context for practicing language functions. Crossover learning. The 2015 Innovating Pedagogy report highlights "crossover learning" as one of ten innovations that are on the brink of having a profound influence on education [3]. The concept of crossover learning refers to a comprehensive understanding of learning that bridges formal and informal learning settings. Teachers can spark meaningful discussion in classrooms by encouraging students to ask open-ended questions, re-state remarks in more scientific language, and develop and use models to construct explanations. Learning through argumentation. When students argue in scientific ways, they learn how to take turns, listen actively, and respond constructively to others. Professional development can help teachers to learn these strategies and overcome language challenges, such as how to share their intellectual expertise with students appropriately. 3. Incidental Learning. Incidental learning is unintentional or unplanned learning that results from other activities. It occurs often in the workplace and when using computers, in the process of completing tasks [4]. 4. Learning by Doing. It's a hands-on approach to learning, meaning students must interact with their environment in order to adapt and learn. 5. Embodied learning. Existing literature on embodied cognition (EC) and embodied learning shows promising effects of bodily engagement and movement on children's cognitive and academic outcomes [5, p. 319-325]. Embodied learning appears as a multimodal and playful process that requires the involvement of the human body in the cognitive process. The technique is simple that needs some movements in your lessons. It not only improves student interest in learning but engages them in the most pleasing way. To conclude it should be noted that, the teacher of 21 century should shed traditional concepts and techniques of classroom teaching and should adopt the recent and innovative teaching techniques. English communication skill teachers must be innovative, creative and resourceful with thorough knowledge of the subject and adopt new techniques to change social economic status of our country. Whatever may be the methods and approaches, the most pragmatic and the desirable thing seems to explore the possibility of using the under used and valuable materials which will definitely facilitate the learning and teaching of language skills. We need to have interactive teaching and this changing role of education is inevitable with the introduction of multimedia technology and the spawning of a technologically-savvy generation of youths [6].

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