



INNOVATIVE METHODS OF TEACHING A LANGUAGE

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ANNOTATION

This paper analyses the innovative and quite interesting methods we have in teaching English language.

KEY WORDS: *traditional, provide, result, rules, interest, percept, meaning, dialect, structure, contain, effective, appeal, nature, unknown, usage.*

DISCUSSION

In today's world English is taught in a very orthodox manner. The basic teaching is important. Teaching the alphabets and the formation of the words is essential and a must. But there is something that is even more significant. 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.

1. Conversations.

Conversations are by far the most useful ways of teaching the language. When a person learns his or her mother tongue it is by the conversations that takes place between them and others or by listening to the conversations made by the others. The learner is never taught the language but is still able to percept the meaning and learns it automatically to use it in day to day life. No one ever teaches the kid the characters of the language or how to make sentences

or the grammar of that language. The conversations alone teach the children. Let's imagine a new born baby he will speak and use suitable words and phrases when he grows up, even though nobody explains him the usage of words and grammar. Learning a language is the same situation we must feel ourselves like in an English family listening, all the time native every day conversations. Here we are able to acquire all skills, such as listening and understanding dialects, pronunciation of words, exact usage of phrases, correct grammar structure. Having learnt we can utilize them in our daily basis without any errors. Latest books which contain all skills have organized them in conversations, which are effective to enhance speaking, listening and so on.

2. 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. There are a number of literary texts that are appropriate to all levels. Teachers must select passages according to level of exact class, and then give as an assignment one text firstly to find out unknown words and translate them, secondly, to read and retell it in their own words. So, while reading they come across new words and understand their meaning and usage from the given text. Preparing a speech about the passage is also stage of improving a language skill which leads to stopping translating in their heads what to speak.



Moreover, during the speaking part of the lesson pictures can be used to describe or making stories combining all given pictures. By doing this activity students enhance not only their speaking or writing skills, however broad horizon and enlarge lexical resource. 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 colorful 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 parts etc. The more creative the modification, more are the points awarded to the team. This also leads to trait development and helps them work as a team player and all the way the student was learning the language.

For instance, students opt for one short literary work by any native or Karakalpak writer, such as Tolepbergen Qayipbergenov, Amet Shamuratov, and dividing into characters translate speeches into English and play a role. In order to make a performance 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 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.

3. Games

This is a very interesting method of teaching. Students and children generally tend to like games and want to play them more and more. Traditional methods dictated for study and games to be separate but the fact remains that the students tend to be more interested in playing games rather than sitting down to study. Any logical reasoning would dictate us to combine the two aspects to solve the problem. The games part of learning would help the students keep their interest as the desire to win is very strong. It keeps us going and when included with different aspects of learning the learning process would continue almost throughout the day without the children getting tired or bored of studying. Human being is always wants to be a winner, so taking into consideration this personality method of using games is very productive.

-Games increase motivation and desire for self-improvement

-Games improve participants' ability to observe

-Games enhance critical thinking, imagination.

Another approval of using games in a foreign language classroom can be seen in the fact that learners provide a number of benefits via games. It was ensured by many experienced writers that games are educationally valuable. Some reasons are mentioned by Lee as in the following (Lee, 2000) games give a chance to escape from unusual routine, but they are very important in terms of motivation and challenges. Moreover, games provide encouragement to interact and communicate successfully for learners and create a context to use the language meaningfully, decrease anxiety, and allow students to study in a relaxed and enjoyable atmosphere. Learners involve in the games actively, so games are called learner-centered activities according to Crookall (2000). Through games learners' and teachers' roles are changed and teacher encourages learners to participate actively in their learning. As a result, games give a chance to learners to take responsibilities for their own learning. When their focus is on a game as an activity learners acquire the target language as they acquire their mother tongue, that is, without being aware of it.

4. Creative task

Up till now most of the techniques that we discussed required a greater amount of effort on the students' part. This method requires effort on the teacher's part. Assignments help the students learn something on their own and most of the times they have to research on something then write something up on it. This method although effective is most of the times very tedious. This method of approach is very appropriate for sciences and engineering although when it comes to languages the students should be given assignments in which they have to modify something that already exists. If the students are just given assignments like „write a story or a



poem or a report" then most of the students crack because not everyone can come up with a story or even if they come up with one they cannot write it down. In such case the students should be given the base knowledge and data and then ask them to modify the data for example the students can be given a base story and then ask them to modify a part of it. This engages their creativity and also helps them overcome their difficulty of writing. Above all it lifts the pressure of creating completely new. Invention is very difficult especially when we are being forced to do it. In this way the students are not forced to complete the assignment and then they can do it whole heartedly and hence complete the learning experience that can be gained from the assignment. (Kevin D. Besnoy)

5. Multimedia

Multimedia sources like songs, movies, TV series, magazines, newspapers play a very vital role improving our language. We do not even realize that they have helped us. We just wake up one fine day and realize that we are better than it than we were yesterday. Such sources can be used to help the students improve their language. But great precautions must be taken. This method should be used in the final stages of learning as that is the only place where there is no scope of damage as most of the movies and songs etc. use colloquial English most of the times which is grammatically wrong and it is very important that the students understand that fact so that they do not use that form of the language in their everyday usage. Apart from that this source is very helpful as it does not feel like education. This is something that the students will do in their spare time. The songs are the best way to communicate how to use a language to express our feelings. Movies are a very common past time but apart from that most of the times they are also very instructional and educational. Also this method appeals to the students as most of the times they are able to connect with the songs and the movies which help them understand the meaning of expressions, usage of tools of the language like comparisons, personifications etc. These sources help them understand why such tools are necessary and also help them understand their usage. Hence this method is again very effective in teaching the language. Traditional methods of reading newspapers and books, novels are also very good methods to teach the language. When the traditional methods are modified along with some innovative ideas the entire learning and the teaching process is enriched and guarantees a success in efficient learning. These are some of the innovative and creative ways of teaching the English Language.

The ways the languages are taught play a very vital role in a person's life. Since English is the official language of this world it is of utmost

importance that this language has to be taught in such a way that it will help us not just to speak and write and listen but to communicate. That is the purpose of the language and that is what it must be used for. Hence innovative methods help in bringing a change and most of the times for the better. It helps the students learn faster and in an efficient, interesting and an interactive manner and it is the teacher's responsibility to leave the traditional methods and make way for new and better methods for the students benefit.

6. Mobile apps

A mobile app, as a computer program, is designed to run on mobile phones, tablet computers (like iPad) and other mobile devices. The word "app" is a shortening of the term "application software". Apps are easily available through application distribution platform called App Market, and these apps are typically operated by the owner of the mobile operating system, such as the Apple App Store, Google Play, Windows Phone Store, and BlackBerry App World. There are two main app stores: Google Play for Android and Apple App Store for iOS. Google Play, known as Android Market, is an international online software store developed by Google for Android devices (Chu, 2009). Apple App Store for iOS is the first app market, which set the standard for app distribution services (Rao, 2011). Nowadays, in these mobile operating systems can be found a number of educational apps, which are helpful to acquire a language independently and easily. Let's have a look at one app that is appropriate to children to learn English. The app «ABC kids» where children are able to learn basic vocabulary in an interactive way, even without any assistance. It is divided into categories, for instance, family, animals and fruits. By entering the specific topic you come across pictures and words that are pronounced in English. In this way children are able to learn by repeating the words again and again. At the end of all topics there can be found quizzes, which are very effective method of reviewing all learnt words and assessing the learners' work. Examples of tasks may be matching words and colorful pictures, since most kids are not able to read, pronouncing and finding suitable units are very productive assignments. The can get presents or point to each correct answer and overall one mark. Using these kinds of apps attractive not only for children but you can still enjoy the magic of childhood to meet your language learning needs because language learning resources for kids are some of the best out there. Educational apps are appropriate not just for children but also their parents are able to use them to acquire a language.



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