Effective Teaching using Modern Technologies in General English Classrooms

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Abstract— Language is one of the vital ingredients in pursuing Education. Many people know the concept but they do not know how to communicate. If they communicate with lack of knowledge in using the Technologies that are available in the modern World, that will not suffice. Communicating in English language illuminates the official decorum. The communication and usage of tools differs from person to person. This paper will help the students to communicate in English Language in a better way. Further the aid of technology will eventually give a giant leap in the personal growth of an individual.

Keywords: Language Learning, Teaching, English Classroom, Communication, Modern Technology.

I. INTRODUCTION

Language learning is the basis of all other education. Language makes who we are or the one we want to become. English Language is an example for the importance of language because it has become the spoken language in many parts of the world. As well, it is spoken as the native language. English is playing a vital role in various fields like education, medicine, business and Information Technology. English is not used as the first language in India. But, it is taught as the second language in schools and colleges. Over the years, it has gained the status of the official language in various places in India.

II. LEARNING A LANGUAGE

Each and every language has a different grammatical pattern and syntax. If any violation is made in that pattern, it may change the meaning of the sentence. When the students are taught a native language, they readily understand the language, as it is spoken by them regularly. They may get the mastery over the language soon. If they are taught a second language like English, their mind automatically think about the usage of Language 1 and compares it with Language 2 and finally Language 2 Learning may not be efficient.

III. TEACHING – LEARNING ENGLISH

Teaching Learning process is not one way process, it should be carried out by both teacher and students. A teacher's work does not end out in making the students understand the concepts of the lesson. He/she must find out what the students require and must solve the doubts of the students.

Both the teacher and students must take active participation in this Teaching – Learning process, like conducting debates, word games to improve the knowledge of students in English. A teacher should make the students feel comfortable in the class. Teaching will be efficient, only if the students are allowed to take decisions individually inside the classroom.

A teacher should understand the capacity of the students. Students' capacity may differ but the teacher should aim at educating all kinds of students. To make the students' a master of the subject, a teacher can also use any teaching aids. The quality of teaching – learning English will be improved if a teacher gives opportunity to students to speak about some general topics, to share their views on any public issue or to arrive at conclusion for any current problem.

Any language especially English learning is basically involved in four communication skills, viz., Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing.

Tests are not enough to improve the standard of English. Various activities should be performed to make the students actively participate in this Teaching – Learning process. To improve listening skills, students should be allowed to hear speeches of great men.

Speaking skills of students may be improved if they are allowed to speak in classrooms regularly on the subject of their choice.

Students can acquire reading skills easily, while reading the texts aloud in the classroom as part of the teaching – learning method.

Students should be motivated to write on the topics such as important day in their life, their role model in life. They should be encouraged to write diaries also.

IV. GENERAL ENGLISH

General English is offered to the students in first and second year of their graduation in India. The main objective of the subject is to develop students' listening skills for academic and lifetime purposes.

1.   To make the students get in touch with the English Literature in general such as prose, poetry, short story, Novel. This motivates their reading habits, which in turn improves their English knowledge.

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The Mediocre teacher tells

The Good teacher explains

The superior teacher demonstrates

The great teacher inspires

 William Arthur Ward

2. To help students understand the grammar.

3. To familiarize students in writing letters and report writing in formal and business situations.

Soft skills are also being taught to the college students who are doing their graduation. The main objectives of this subject are as follows:

1. To train students in language and communication skills, spoken and presentation skills and personality enrichments.

2. To equip them develop their people skills, to make the transition from college to workplace easier and make them shine in their jobs.

3. To develop students' performance at placement interviews, group discussions and other recruitment processes.

Apart from the regular syllabus prescribed by the respective Universities, English classes can be taught in effective manner using Modern techniques and the use of Modern Technology.

V. EFFECTIVE ENGLISH TEACHING USING MODERN TECHNOLOGY & RESULTS

5.1 Listening to Learn:

All the students will not be having equal listening capacity. Therefore, students who need to improve their listening skills must listen to learn it. They need the experience of hearing, processing and imagining. If they are given a task of creating their own audio theatre, they will have this experience.

There is one popular choice for audio theatre is radio plays. Students can create radio stories – complete with music and sound effects to accompany the Literature, they are reading in the classroom. In short, any endaevour in an English classroom can be transferred to audio. These projects may help the students become better in language learning.

5.2 Constructing knowledge with video projects:

Students should be assigned to do one video project where they can work collaboratively to produce a video. Each and every one of them should be given a specific task to make them more involved in the project.

The students', who are not interested in acting, can write the script or block the stage; they can help the characters learn lines, they can draw posters that serve as backdrops. Everyone is responsible for something and the success of the project depends as each student doing his or her part.

In this video project, they are working for a real purpose. They are creating something for an audience which goes beyond their teacher. Learning to collaborate is one of the important soft skills which teachers expect from their students. Hence, video projects help the students getting involved in teamwork.

5.3 Movies:

Using films in English classroom helps in moulding the skills of the students for reading and for writing, speaking, listening and viewing. Students can readily enjoy movies and the media is an interesting medium which can also be used to hone the skills of literacy.

5.4 Novels:

Before analyzing the film with students, an English teacher should review the elements of a novel, plot, characterization, style, theme, setting, tone and point of view. Helping the students internalize these elements will enable them to read more actively and critically and discuss stories, more articulately. In fact, this will lead them on an examination of the same elements in films.

5.5 Towards Global Understanding

Using Pen pals, students learn to view themselves in relation to the World at large. As students share experiences with one another, global understanding is increased – and communication skills improve. Further, students develop respect for diversity, both in language and opinion. Reading and writing are valued because students come to see them for what they are: real tools for communication.

English teachers who want to use Internet to help them meet educational objectives do have options. A number of places on the Web offer free, safe for the students. There are numerous sites that connect English classrooms with the real world.

5.6 Interactive writing:

Students should be taught to write as a form of scholarly exercise. They should learn persuasive writing which involves writing and rewriting processes. Students learn quickly the composition task done in English classroom.

Students should be encouraged to think. They should be asked to conduct research, explore ideas and to find the joy of discovery. They can make use of Internet in knowing about unknown information.

5.7 Organizing ideas:

Organizing ideas plays a vital role in developing critical thinking. If the students are given practice to organize their ideas to develop critical thinking, they will learn to prioritize information according to the relevancy of the concept with the topic given.

5.8 Graphic Organizers for prewriting:

Many teachers use concept maps to help students organize ideas before they begin the writing process. To help students begin a concept map, ask them to identify the main idea around which they will work. Once a student has identified a main idea, ask him or her to brainstorm questions pertaining to the topic.

5.9 Creating a class website:

To identify the role of the Net in the English classroom, many teachers point to its wealth of resources. For example, students can find full text copies of thousands of books in the public domain. Similarly, they can search encyclopedias, dictionaries and academic databases.

Creating a class web page can help students hone the skills necessary in today's point-and-click world. For example, the Net is still primarily text based; therefore a student's need is to write effectively. But, teaching writing has always been one of the more difficult of an English teacher's countless jobs. Publishing students' writing on the Internet may help them

in developing their art of writing.

5.10 PowerPoint and Beyond:

One way to assess whether students have internalized meaning in any unit of study is to ask them to present their learning to their peers. Those of us who taught public speaking know how difficult it is to get some students up in front of the class. But unlike traditional "Oral presentations", when the students demonstrate their learning skills with the use of software such as PowerPoint, the class attention moves away from the speaker and onto the screen. Consequently, those students who would not be caught dead giving a formal speech can be successful presenting information to their peers. Using presentation software means that they are not the subjects of scrutiny; their work is.

Furthermore, the multimedia's aspects of presentation software engage students in ways which the traditional print seems to be unable to. The blending of text, sounds, images, and motion contribute to an overall effect that stimulates multiple intelligences and seems to engage learners.

VI. CONCLUSION

This paper deals with various accessible technological aids to integrate technology with English in teaching using some basic concepts like audio, video, movies and computers to make the students to be better readers, writers and thinkers of English language. This will help the students understand English in meaningful ways that can create even more opportunities for the students to learn and grow.

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