

INITIAL CHALLENGES IN LEARNING LANGUAGE AND OVERCOME THESE ISSUES WITH EFFECTIVE TEACHING STRATEGIES

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Abstract: This article explains difficulties of learning English as a second language and overcome these obstacles with intensive teaching methods. Each method is characterized with examples and meanings to illustrate effective teaching approaches in creating interactive classroom atmosphere. Overall, special attention is paid to teaching English to non – native speakers effectively, emphasizing the importance of overcoming language learning difficulties.

Key words; *Challenges, Overcome, Language skills, Teaching strategies, Suggestopedia.*

Introduction;

English is considered to be the leading language recognized around the world and is widely used in Banking, Diplomacy, Education and also Tourism. However, most of learners are facing some challenges during learning this an international language. This paper highlights the main reasons of difficulties in learning a second language and productive techniques that can come beneficial for learners to be master in it.

Kanan (2009) said that, the attitude has a great effect on learning language. Because, learners' positive attitude directly changes learning languages

Learning a second or foreign language is a long and complex process, because, learners are required to cover all aspects of a new language such as the structure and culture of target language. (Brown 2007)

1. The most challenges of learning English as a second language.

• **Negative transfer;** This phrase means that using some structures of native language when learning a second or foreign one.

English learners should be familiar with a second language structure when they start learning that language. This is because, language structure has a great impact on learning. If students use a wrong structure, it causes the occurrence of a negative transfer and ambiguity in language. But, some learners do not care about these issues, therefore, the result of learning will be negative.

For example, the structure of English language is different from Arabic and Uzbek ones.

In English language: S+V+Obj

In Uzbek language: S +Principle 2nd of Sentence+V.

•**Cultural differences;**

Every specific country has its own cultural differences such as history, heritage, myths, traditions from other communities. Sometimes, even though learners know vocabulary and other necessary aspects based on a second language, they cannot explain proper meaning of them.

For example, “English learners must know about English (Does English culture refer to US ,British ,Canada,Australia or South Africa ? It appears ambiguous for the reader.)

Culture;because ,sometimes, learners are challenged by specific vocabularies belong to specific communities.Understanding these vocabularies need cultural awareness and familiarity.Cultural defference ,therefore,is another issue that learners face in learning language.”

(Rhalmi 2014)

•**Accent;**

The biggest problem of English learners may be accent .Accent is the way of pronouncing words.English language has different accents such as American ,British ,and Australian and ect.Accent varieties may cause problem for learners,because,they probably confuse the learners’ understanding and they find it hard.(Derwing and Munro,2015)

It is always difficult for second and foreign language learners to pronounce words correctly as native speakers.Morover,the way of pronouncing is really based on fist language.Because,some phonetics and sound do not have in target language which can be problem.

For example;

In Uzbek language there is not any “th” sound ,not only in Uzbek but also other languages .That’s why Uzbek learner cannot pronounce it.

•**Environment;**

Environment refers to the class atmosphere ,geographical space ,culture and systems of though in which learners learn the language .At the time of learning a language ,the size of the classroom and its educational atmosphere need to be significantly considered. Safe environment and freedom of interaction provided for the learners are appropriate and preferable means of learning. (Bingol 2014)

Teachers take responsibility to create a safe environment in which learners experience the newly acquired language.Well-designed environmrent and classroom freedom of interaction lead to students’ influencial participation and their sense of anxiety.(Brown,2007).

As English has lots of words that have different usages in different contexts, knowing all these meanings leads to boredom from the side of learner. (Hayat, 2009).

For example, if classroom is too small and on top of this, has lots of students than normal, it leads to noise and, in turn, uncomfortable teaching environment which contributes inefficient teaching strategy.

Language skills;

In English, the most common ways to identified four main skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. (Harmer 1990)

•Listening;

Listening skill is important as other skills, learners will receive input through listening then they would be able to transform their input to output. (Deutschendorf, 2014).

There are several ways to improve listening such as.....

Listening to ...

- ✓ Real English songs.
- ✓ Short stories.
- ✓ English news.
- ✓ Radio.
- ✓ Tv shows in English.
- ✓ Native English channels.

Nunun said that "Listening is the basic skill in language learning. Because, without listening learners never learn to communicate perfectly.

•Speaking;

As Bailey and Savage (1994) said that speaking in a second or foreign language has often been viewed as the most demanding of the four skills.

Researchers suggest some tips to develop speaking skill, these are....

- ✓ Join in English clubs and courses in order to speak freely and fluently (students can correct each others without feeling embarrassed).
- ✓ The role of teacher is important; to motivate the learners to speak English
- ✓ A suitable environment should be provided. Because, it makes positive results on learning language, because most of learners feel shy and anxious while speaking.
- ✓ Making presentation and debates in English (Hetrakul, 1995)

•Reading;

Reading skill is very significant to boost student's overall literacy skills and enhance vocabulary ,expression ,analysis and communication.

There are some following tips which are useful to develop reading skill.

- ✓ Read as a habit on a daily basis.
- ✓ Focus on new vocabulary and its usage.
- ✓ Take notes .
- ✓ Summarize ideas.
- ✓ Find something like short stories and children's book, because it is a good way to improve your reading and vocabulary in early stages.

(Mikulecky and Jeffries,2004)

•Writing ;

Writing is an important skill in language which impacts on the result of learning language;avoiding repetition and long senteances ; it is good for the learners to choose and use clear words and expressions.

(Johnson 2009)

One of the best ways to improve writing skill such as

- ✓ Learn basic and complex grammar structures.
- ✓ Join in a class or writing workshop .
- ✓ Learn punctuation marks ,because they can change whole meaning .
- ✓ Write letters to friends.
- ✓ To improve writing, it is good to write poems and short stories to overcome the difficulties of writing skill. (Adas and Bakir,2013)

Kroma (1988;37-p) argues that writing is a kind of activity where the writer expresses all the ideas in his mind in the paper from words to sentence, sentence to paragraph and from paragraph to essay.

Teaching strategies;

- ✓ There are several particular methods for language learners to master in English ,these are

•Grammar-Translation.

This approach was the main tool for learning language in ancient period (Latin ,Sanskrit)

In this way ,teacher gives brief passage in native language,add new vocabularies and give student to translate.

It is known that grammar is a set of rules that define how words(or parts of words) are combined or changed to form acceptable units of meaning within a language.(Penny,2000)

●**Direct;**

The second name of direct method is a natural method.

In this method ,learners only use from their native language and target language. In general,this teaching strategy focuses on development of oral skill.

Some features of direct method;

- ✓ Pantomiming .
- ✓ Word –Picture association.
- ✓ Question –Answer patterns.
- ✓ Dialogues.
- ✓ Role –Playing.

●**Auto- Lingual;**

In this approach,phonology ,morphology and syntax of language are learnt by students through constractive analysis of defferences between the native language and the target language .This method consisted of repetition of sentence,word and make answer to question instinctively and automatically.

●**Total Physical Response;**

This method is teaching kids by using physical movement to teach words and verbs.

Performing action with the help of mimic is base of this approach.

Total Physical Response method is associated with the psychological term “tracking theory”which includes rote re-learning technique through intense repetition of both verbal repititons and physical activities.

(Richard and Rodgers ,2000)

The main purpose of the Total Physical Response method is to reduce the stress of students and to entertain them during the foreign language education process.

●**Silent way ;**

Structural syllabus and concentrations are used for teaching a small number of functional words to students.In this approach ,student should find solution by himself for his issue rather than asking question for each problem from teacher.

For instance,the teacher begins to collect items or write numbers and any volunteer continues it silently.After this exercise, teacher answers yes or no by nodding.If their task is correct or not.

•Computer Assisted Language Learning ;(CALL)

CALL method is to use widely some apps and online platforms based on learning several languages.

For example, there are several commercial products such as (Pimsleur, Rosetta Stone) and online platforms (Duolingo and Babbel) to use the CALL method effectively.

•Suggestopedia;

This phrase means "a portmanteau of suggestion and pedagogy". This method was created by George Lazanov and introduced in 1978 in Paris UNESCO.

Suggestopedia is creating and surrounding atmosphere of classroom with intensive activities related to art, music for students to feel comfortable and confident.

Performing drama in English with students in classroom is one of the best example for suggestopedia method.

Lazanov (1978) said that there four main stages of activities in suggestopedia.

- ✓ Presentation
- ✓ Concert session.
- ✓ Elaboration.
- ✓ Practise .

Priyatmojo(2009) considered that suggestopedia is useful in the teaching vocabulary to young learners. Suggestopedia helped the students to memorize well in vocabulary.

Conclusion;

It is obvious that each teacher should guide according to approaches which are mentioned above in choosing method for student. When they come across some challenges in accent, pronunciation or, maybe, grammar during learning process. Suggestopedia, CALL (Computer Assisted Learning), Total physical response and Direct methods can be best option to implement to enhance students' overall intelligence in language learning sphere.

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