

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.53032/tcl.2017.1.6.18>

Importance of Spoken English Language in our Professional Development and Life

Dr. Zubair Khan

(M.A. B. Ed. M.Phil. Ph.D. in English)
Associate Professor & Ex. Head Dept. of
English Language
College of Science & Arts, Tabarjal
Al-Jouf University, Saudi Arabia,
& On Deputation as a Manager from
H.A.M.Inter College Deengarpur Road
kunderki, Moradabad, UP, India

Mohd Aftab Ali

M.Sc., Ph.D. Pursuing Mathematics
Dept. of Mathematics, Shri Venkateshwara
University Gajraula, U.P. India

Mrs. Farha Deeba

M. Com.
Lecturer Department of Business Administration
& Management
IIMT Group of Colleges, Meerut UP India.

Abstract

Spoken English Language has become the life blood of our professional development and social life. In the worldwide market place spoken English has emerged as the lingua franca. There is a huge and growing demand, for training in Spoken English skills from individuals and companies in all sectors and in all parts of the world. The Importance of Spoken English Language in this age of globalization is essential. English language is the most important language of communication between different countries. UN has recognized 5 languages as its official languages one of them English takes the 1st position. English is spoken by communities on every continent and on oceanic islands in all the major oceans. English is the dominant international language in science, business, aviation, entertainment, and diplomacy, and also on the Internet. In most fields of work your ability to speak English can help you

advance your career; helping you get the job you want and earn more money. No matter what your area of expertise, skill in English will contribute substantially to your success. Speaking and understanding English will allow a person to communicate with each other, besides this it offers you more chances of doing professional jobs not in your own country but around the world.

Keywords: Importance of Spoken English, Globalization, English as an International Language, Professional Development, Corporate World Communities, Golden Opportunities For Employment

Introduction

English is a West Germanic language that was first spoken in early medieval England and is now a global lingua franca. Today the whole corporate world communicates in English, so through this spoken English language, you can build up career opportunities to lead a better professional development. To run any kind of business or to any job we need better professional development and it can be possible with Spoken English language. Language is our primary source of communication. It's the method through which we share our ideas and thoughts with others. Some people even say that language is what separates us from animals and makes us human. English is the most commonly spoken language in the world. One out of five people can speak or at least understand English! 2. English is the language of science, of aviation, computers, diplomacy, and tourism. Knowing English increases your chances of getting a good job in a multinational company within your home country or of finding work abroad.

In 2006 it was stated in "English Worldwide", a book by Professor David Crystal, that there were approximately 400 million native speakers of English. In addition, Crystal said that there were 400 million speakers of English as a second language. Furthermore, there were around 600 - 700 million English as a foreign language speakers. So, that's clearly over 1 billion people that could communicate in English to some extent. Those figures are also almost 10 years old, so we can surely say that those numbers of speakers have grown in the last decade. So, how many people speak English in the world in 2015? We can estimate that there are definitely above 1.5 billion speakers of English globally.

In 2015, out of the total 195 countries in the world, 67 nations have English as the primary language of 'official status'. Plus there are also 27 countries where English is spoken as a secondary 'official' language. There are thousands of languages in this world. Countries have their own national languages in addition to a variety of local languages spoken and understood by their people in different regions.

Some languages are spoken by millions of people, others by only a few thousand. English was originally the language of England, but through the historical efforts of

the British Empire it has become the primary or secondary language of many former British colonies such as the United States, Canada, Australia, and India. Currently, English is the primary language of not only countries actively touched by British imperialism, but also many business and cultural spheres dominated by those countries. It is the language of Hollywood and the language of international banking and business. As such, it is a useful and even necessary language to know. There are several factors that make the spoken English language essential to develop our professional life. First of all, it is the most common foreign language. This means that two people who come from different countries (for example, a Mexican and a Swede) usually use English as a common language to communicate. That's why everyone needs to learn the language in order to get in touch on an international level. Speaking it will help you communicate with people from countries all over the world, not just English-speaking ones.

1. The History of English

English came about in England's Anglo-Saxon kingdoms and what is now the south-eastern part of Scotland. Following extensive influences of the United Kingdom and Great Britain throughout the British Empire from the seventeenth to the mid-twentieth centuries, the language has been propagated widely around the world. Old English is the collective term for the fusion of closely related dialects resulted in English. Germanic settlers who settled on Great Britain's eastern coast spoke this language, which at the time was called Angles. Ultimately, this was from the Schleswig-Holstein or what used to be the Angeln ancestral region. Influence also came from the Viking invasions in the ninth and tenth centuries. Old English developed from a set of North Sea Germanic dialects originally spoken along the coasts of Frisia, Lower Saxony, Jutland, and Southern Sweden by Germanic tribes known as the Angles, Saxons, and Jutes. In the fifth century, the Anglo-Saxons settled Britain and the Romans withdrew from Britain.

2. English as an International language

English is the international language of business which opens up many opportunities to non-native speakers. This English Language Teaching skill provides valuable service to immigrants in English speaking countries and many more. As we know, English is the language which connects people from different regions, cultures and nations. By default, due to the fact that the British ruled most parts of the world a few years ago, they could conveniently sow the seeds of English language and culture in those countries. Though not intended, the British gave a common language to the world. It has helped the world in sharing any kind of information fast and clear without any translation. Though the British left their colonies a long time back, their efforts and reforms in the field of education are yielding results now. It mainly concentrates on the beginners to Intermediate who wants to create an interest in learning this language. Majority of the English books published in the early days focus on British culture norms and values. However, the present day textbooks provide

readers the awareness of the large number of English varieties, such as US English, New Zealand English, Indian English and Australian English. The present study aims to investigate the cultural effects of English language during the teaching learning process. Language is the set of sounds and symbols by which two or more individuals communicate each other. The world is now a 'Global Village', with borders that separate countries becoming as insignificant as mere lines on a map. More and more people are travelling to different parts of the world, to study, work or explore. It is essential to overcome the barriers of language, in order to ensure the smooth flow of knowledge. As Karl Albrecht once said "Change your language and you change your thoughts. The contribution of English language in our intercultural communication adds the challenge of overcoming the communication barriers of different cultures, ethnic heritage, values, traditions, language, history, sense of self, and racial attitudes.

3. Importance of Spoken English Language to Develop Our Professional Life

Actually the importance of spoken English language plays a vital role to develop our professional life. There is no doubt that English language is known as lingua franca nowadays. If you can speak English with confidence there is a good chance that you have either studied or experienced English culture to some extent. This professional development can be valuable for employers who want to work with or sell to English speaking countries. It presents the new phenomena and concepts of 'functional native' and 'Global English' communication together with the change they bring about in the practice of spoken language using, and gives an account of those areas where English continues to play a leading role of professional development (e.g. international business as dominated by multinational companies, the Internet, the international market of higher education). The present scenario aims to investigate the effects/efforts of intercultural communication of English language during the conversation/teaching learning process.

English language plays a major role in every person's life whoever wants to achieve in their professional life. It is a challenge to master this language to any non-native speaker. Globally, a lot of innovative methodologies are bringing adapted to enrich this language learning. Intercultural communication can be linked with identity, which means the competent communicator is the person who can affirm others' avowed identities.

4. Globalization of Speaking English Language

Globalisation has encouraged the domestic companies to think beyond their nations. People don't mind taking challenging and fruitful overseas assignments these days. As English is spoken in most of the countries, language is no more a barrier for people who intend to settle down in other countries. A good knowledge of spoken English language allows you to communicate effectively with international clients, helping them to trust you and your organisation resulting in strong and lasting business relationships. People who use English for their work on a daily basis need to be able to use English for a variety of purposes

including in meetings and negotiations, for managing, writing reports, giving presentations and in social situations. Being able to communicate and negotiate successfully with clients who speak English makes your skill-set more attractive to companies who conduct business internationally meaning employees who speak English can often command higher salaries.

5. Helpful to Get Employment

As the ability to speak and write in English is considered very important and helpful for getting employment. Actually, it is very helpful for both employee and employer. By the way spoken English language links among recruiters at the time of recruitment; let us discuss the expectations of corporate world in this regard. Companies want people who can basically read and understand written words in the form of instructions, reports, letters, memos, notices and other any form of official documents. The ability to express formal communication in oral as well as in written form is equally considered important by the prospective employers. As one moves higher in the vertical direction in the organisational hierarchy, it becomes naturally necessary for an employee to be good presenter, negotiator, and convener of meetings. The mastery over English will help a person to conduct his duties efficiently. One of the important deficiencies found by the employers and recruiters in candidates for different jobs is the lack of oral as well as written communication skills.

Many candidates don't know how to answer to the point at the time of the interview and can't phrase a simple formal letter or report. It becomes a handicap for the candidates who have good domain knowledge. Interviewers will be in dilemma when they encounter such candidates who have technical expertise, but poor communicational skills in English. Left with no other choice they may take the candidate, but will make sure that they are groomed and trained properly. Employers would be happy to interview and recruit who have both communication skills in English and job skills. It lessens their burden of giving too much orientation training at the time of induction or on the job training. Effective spoken English language helps to get the employment easily in comparison other languages. Academicians and researchers are divided in their opinion on the question; is English required for successful business communication? Is it not possible to communicate effectively in regional languages and get the work done? Those who are in favour of English for effective communication would say that English is the official language in most of the companies all over the world.

6. Easy for Immigration

For immigrants by the millions that come to the USA from countries that don't speak English, learning how to communicate in English is important to come into and ultimately become successful in America's mainstream. When you travel to countries where English is the main language, it is important to speak and understand it. Throughout Canada, the US and the UK, shopping and traveling is often made easier by speaking English since many people may not speak other languages. When you speak English, you

will be able to communicate more easily with the locals and explore the regions that may otherwise remain unknown. In Europe, many people learn English in school so knowing the language is a benefit you can enjoy when traveling to places where it is not the native language. Major destinations for tourists such as Australia, Great Britain and the United States all use English as a first language. Plus, even countries that don't speak English offer services for tourists in English. The moment you learn to speak and read the English language, you can speak to everyone you meet in the course of your travels.

7. English is the Primary Instruction in Higher Learning

In colleges and universities in Singapore, New Zealand, Australia, Canada, the United States and Great Britain which attract the most number of students from other countries, English is the primary language of instruction. Many advanced-study institutes, medical canter and top business schools are located in Great Britain and North America and the language used in these higher- learning institutions' every activity happens to be English. Most technical periodicals and peer-reviewed journals that give international acclaim to technocrats, technologists, engineers and scientists are printed in English. English is also internationally recognized as the language of science. Most of the knowledge related to computer or health by example is in English. Being able to use English in your researches – especially on the Web - will give you unlimited access to knowledge!

8. Resources Make Learning English Easy

Although many people think that it is very difficult and confusing, English is actually the easiest language of the world to learn because there are so many resources available. As soon as you decide you want to learn, there are thousands of resources on the Internet and in bookstores. I'm not just talking about lessons and grammar books. You can supplement traditional learning materials with children's TV shows and books. I suggest watching as much TV as you can, in English with English subtitles, and you will pick up conversational English in no time. English skills will also help you in any business venture you choose to follow. If you visit some offices, companies, governmental organizations, or even math or engineering companies, you will see the importance of English. Any big company will hire their professional staff after getting to know whether the people they are hiring are good at English or not. Companies who want to function at an international level only consider their staff well educated if they are good English speakers, writers, and readers. English is spoken as a first language by around 400 million people around the world. English is the language of the media industry. If you speak English, you won't need to rely on translations and subtitles anymore to enjoy your favourite books, songs, films and TV shows. English is also the language of the Internet. Many websites are written in English – you will be able to understand them and to take part in forums and discussions.

English is based on a simple alphabet and it is fairly quick and easy to learn compared to other languages. English is not only useful — it gives you a lot of satisfaction. Making

progress feels great. You will enjoy learning English, if you remember that every hour you spend gets you closer to perfection. Since English is spoken in so many different countries there are thousands of schools around the world that offer programmes in English. If you speak English, there're lots of opportunities for you to find an appropriate school and course to suit your academic needs. Because it's fun! By learning English, you will also learn about other cultures. Few experiences will make you grow as a person more than learning the values, habits and way of life in a culture that is different from yours.

Conclusion

The abovementioned points in this paper focus on the importance of the spoken English language in our professional development and life. By the help of the above described steps, I tried/attempted to explain the vital use of speaking of English language in our daily life, which has become the mile stone of our progressive life. This paper helps the speakers to enhance the intercultural communication in the job places or any field for their professional development. It is an opportunity to enable the learners to relish the English language. It is estimated that over 50% of the pages on the internet are written in English which means that more online information is available to people who can read English. Having access to so much more information can make a real difference to your professional life, even if you don't work with colleagues or clients who speak English. As it is stated above, English being the most commonly used language in the corporate world; the knowledge of English is one of the most important employability skills. Knowledge of English is much sought after in the corporate world. Proper English does not mean only the ability to make grammatically correct sentences. You may find that information from a website written in English may help you to understand a project better or provide some useful information for a report. It means other related skills for effective communication like presentation skills, convincing and negotiation skills and interpersonal skills using that language. English as a language plays a vital role in shaping one's personality. Starting from academia to industry the necessity of English is inevitable. The need of the hour is to have certain modifications in the education system which will address the needs of the changing economy and take suitable measures at providing mandatory training in communicative English with a view to have the youngsters gainfully employed. This will ultimately benefit all the stakeholders, industry, government and economy by increasing the productivity and resulting in a higher GDP of the nation.

References

- Crystal, D. 1995. *The Cambridge Encyclopaedia of the English Language*. Cambridge: CUP.
Graddol, D. 2006.
English Next British Council. Oxford: Westview. 2004. Print
<http://www.eurydice.org>

<http://www.fisz.hu> <http://hu.wikipedia.org/wiki>

<http://www.atkearney.com>

<http://publikacio.uni-miskolc.hu/data/ME-PUB-37599/24.pdf>

<http://inderscience.metapress.com/index/N649Q0252401V1M3.pdf>

<http://www.mondaq.com>

Sapir, E. *Language: An Introduction to the Study of Speech*. New York: Harcourt, 1921. Print.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Communication>

Bolinger, Dwight. *Aspects of Language*. New York: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1975.

Crystal, David. *Who Cares About English Usage?* Middlesex: Penguin, 1984.

Rivers, Wilga. *Teaching Foreign-Language Skills*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1970.

Stevick, Earl. *Teaching and Learning Languages*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1982.

Bibler V. "The School of the Dialogues of Cultures." Private School 1 (1993).

Berdyaev N.A. *Self-Knowledge: The Experience of Philosophical Autobiography*. (M.: Mysl, 1990.).

See also, Berdyaev N.A. *The Philosophy of Freedom. The Sense of Creativity*. (Moscow, 1989).

Abul Khanova-Slavskaya K.A. *Life Strategy*. (M.: Mysl, 1991);

Rubinstein S.L. *The Problems of General Psychology*. (M., Pedagogika, 1976).

Obozin N.N. *The Psychology of Inter-Personal Relations*. (Kiev, 1990);

Kolomenski Y.L. *The Psychology of Inter-Relations in Smaller Groups*. (Minsk, 2000).

Buyeva L.P. *Man in the Mirror of Culture and Education*. (M., 1989).

Kagan M.S. *The World of Communication: The Problem of Inter-Subjective Relationships*. (M., 1988)

Ager, D. (1993) *Language Education for Intercultural Communication*. U.S: Multilingual Matters LTD.

Asante, M.K. (1990) *Handbook of International and Intercultural Communication*. Sage Publishing's.

<http://apostolosmakrides.blogspot.in/2010/06/importance-of-english-language.html>.

<http://www.experienceenglish.com/social-english/articles/10-reasons-learn-english>

<http://www.englishdomain.eu/English---why-is-english-important-nowadays.html?sect=menu3>

<http://genextlanguagesjamnagar.blogspot.in/2012/10/importance-of-english-language-inour.html>

http://www.answers.com/Q/Why_is_English_important_in_today's_world

<http://www.ukessays.com/essays/english-language/language-very-important-part-of-everydaylife-english-language-essay.php>

<https://www.translate.com/english/english-nowadays-has-an-important-role-in-our-daily-life-it-is-the-massive-means-of-communication/7054532>

<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/20140724090606-311421679-spoken-english-communicationskill-importance-of-english-language>

<http://apostolosmakrides.blogspot.in/2010/06/importance-of-english-language.html>