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Thejas Gigy Thomas¹

Ben J. Milton²

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¹Assistant Professor (SG), Department of Languages, School of Liberal Arts & Applied Sciences, Hindustan Institute of Technology & Science, Chennai – 603103, Tamil Nadu, India

²Assistant Professor, Department of Languages, School of Liberal Arts & Applied Sciences, Hindustan Institute of Technology & Science, Chennai – 603103, Tamil Nadu, India



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Thejas Gigy Thomas¹, Ben J. Milton²

¹Assistant Professor (SG), Department of Languages, School of Liberal Arts & Applied Sciences, Hindustan Institute of Technology & Science, Chennai – 603103, Tamil Nadu, India

²Assistant Professor, Department of Languages, School of Liberal Arts & Applied Sciences, Hindustan Institute of Technology & Science, Chennai – 603103, Tamil Nadu, India

Email : thejasgt@hindustanuniv.ac.in¹, benjm@hindustanuniv.ac.in²

ABSTRACT

Teaching is a great profession, but it is also a difficult job. The role of teachers has significantly changed throughout time in the modern era with the introduction of new teaching approaches and the manner that digital and smart learning has penetrated the area of education. The paper's major focus is on the difficulties an English teacher can have in the classroom given the existing environment, which is primarily characterised by students' lack of respect for, conviction about, and enthusiasm for the language. When taught using the conventional classroom lecture style, any literary component or any language skill becomes tough and demanding to teach. In order to teach English to these "present-day technologically focused youngsters," there is a need to re-assess the classroom teaching technique in order to meet their needs and the expectations of the students. For tutors to provide the right teachings, they must identify each student's evolving requirements. The fact that there may be issues during the educational process also makes it understandable that it could be stressful. Competent teachers should keep an eye on each difficulty to make sure it doesn't disrupt the learning process. The challenges faced while teaching English can be addressed with the tools and techniques for education that are already accessible. The study's major focus is on how well teachers and their utilisation of contemporary English teaching tools are compatible.

Keywords: Innovative practices, Teaching tools, Visual-aids, E-books, Learning, Technology.

INTRODUCTION

The method of classroom teaching has grown increasingly difficult in today's technologically advanced era of teaching and learning. For students in the present day, the classroom serves more as a barrier than a place to study. English is a widely used language for communication that is generally acknowledged. The importance of mastering this language, particularly in non-English speaking nations, has increased significantly since it is a necessary tool for establishing one's identity in this rapidly expanding global community. Many people may now participate in global contributions because of this language. Therefore, language teaching is even more important than language learning. The process of learning a language has traditionally taken place inside of four walls, but the availability of contemporary technological instruments has increased the learning opportunities available to children today. This paper examines some of the difficulties encountered in the teaching-learning of English as well as various technical aids that can make it easier to teach English in accordance with contemporary demands.

Review of Literature

To provide the greatest results for the students, teachers take on a variety of tasks during the teaching and learning processes. Effective teachers should function as the class's leader, planner, evaluator, facilitator, collaborator, spectator, and a decent tutor in addition to acting as an example for their students (Nunan, 2005). In addition to carrying out their duties when teaching English, teachers need to be able to make their classes interesting. Teachers need to be enthusiastic about what they do, knowledgeable, and funny in addition to being able to impart knowledge. Young students get information in a variety of ways, therefore English teachers working with them should be aware of these (Roy, 2017). In order to convey concepts to students in an easier way, teachers should adapt the numerous approaches and strategies that they might employ with them.

The difficulties of studying and teaching English nowadays

To investigate and comprehend the idea that the English language originated in nations like India may be a difficult procedure. However, given its status as a universal language of communication, it is generally

acknowledged worldwide. Yes, the term "universal" definitely sums up how crucial it is for everyone in today's competitive world to understand this language. Speaking about the competitive world, English has a vast range of knowledge that practically encompasses every industry worldwide. The teaching of this language therefore assumes equal importance. English language acquisition has advanced significantly over the course of at least the previous three decades (Roy, 2017). Learning English in a classroom, especially in non-English speaking nations, has proven essential. The teaching of English to children who do not speak it currently faces a few obstacles. A few barriers were present from the start and are still there now, but they are now twice as big due to concepts like technological advancement in education. The English language instructor has several difficulties in the classroom in the present-day instruction. This study tries to summarise some of our observations and research on classroom instruction.

Methods and activities for learning a language

Here are some techniques and language-learning exercises that are used in classrooms outside of the prescribed curriculum to help students enhance their language proficiency. This has helped to make the environment more positive.

Table 1

Sl.No	Development methods	Aids to be used	Development
1.	Daily newspaper reading in English is required.	Any reputable English daily publications	It can encourage reading among pupils and boost their verbal skills.
2.	Watching or listening to news stories, interviews, and debates in English	Using the internet to get English News channels or watching English news stations on television	Aids in understanding the language's many cultural nuances and speaking styles .
3.	Vocabulary games in English	Paper-based techniques or online word games	A student may enter as many terms as they like.
4.	English quiz	Several grammar or english test books	Enhances grammar and vocabulary .
5.	Picture quiz	Image-based crosswords	Increases vocabulary
6.	Role play	Scripts of mini dramas	Enhances the student's fluency and confidence
7.	Presentations	Through PPT's or charts	Aids in honing presenting abilities
8.	Group discussions	GD methodology	Increases self-assurance, interview preparation, and idea sharing
9.	Stage speaking/Public Speaking	General topics and auditorium	Helps reduce stage fright
10.	Anchoring practice/speech practice/MC practice	Mock stage programmes	Helps one confront others and gain self-confidence
11.	Mock interview	Interview methodology	The student has knowledge of and experience with interview techniques.
12.	Listening motivational speech	Language lab can be utilized/ computer lab with internet access and hearing aids.	Aids in understanding the speech patterns

Observations based on Classroom Instruction Methods

The traditional, conservative educational approach is no longer effective with today's pupils since they are members of a new generation of learners. Since they were born into a digital environment and have been shaped by changing generational perspectives, they no longer have the need to peruse books. This paper also tries to summarise some of our observations and research on classroom instruction.

1. Lack of Interest in English Language Learning Process

Children who study English as a second language have no concept how crucial it is to learn the language at the fundamental level since they are constantly exposed to their native tongue. This causes a student's enthusiasm in studying English to wane. As a result, a youngster is left without a foundational understanding of English and is left with the strong impression that learning English is hard. During class time, the teacher has a difficult time keeping the kids' attention. Their concentration span has significantly decreased, they avoid the subject, and they prefer to be psychologically present in the classes. The outdated approach of chalk and talk lectures will no longer be helpful to the teacher. He/she must adjust to the new teaching methods and master the cutting-edge technology tools as a student in order to improvise and connect with his students.

2. Semester system and marks-oriented learning

A successful learning process is hampered by the semester system used in the majority of colleges. The system is in a rush, so the instructor won't have enough time to work with the pupils, even if they could finish the entire semester together. The majority of students who study English do so with the intention of getting high grades or perhaps even simply passing the English language exam at the high school and college levels. As a result, the student can only retain the information needed for the exam and is unable to master grammar or language from the ground up. A learner cannot perform this language since they cannot remember all the principles they previously learned in the future. One of the main problems in the non-English speaking nations is this.

3. Multilingual or Bilingual speaking students

Getting the attention of kids who speak many languages but not English is the greatest problem for any English instructor in the class. A student often translates every word from his native tongue into English, making speaking even more challenging and posing a danger to the student's ability to acquire this foreign language known as "hesitation" and "fear." Additionally, multilingual students have trouble understanding since they only comprehend in their native tongue. The various regional affects that the students' places of origin have on their learning of English is another significant area of difficulty. We have several dialects and native language effects, which the instructor must first battle to remove before beginning to imprint new and appropriate dialects. The majority of the time, many teachers also fall prey to this issue.

4. Innovative Practices

To perform and succeed in this field, the new instructor must adjust to the needs of the pupils who are of a different generation. He/she needs to be creative in developing his own approach so he can successfully engage the pupils in the learning process and capture their attention. The several strategies a teacher can use to engage the class are listed below. We have tried and tested these in our classes, which has improved our performance.

➤ Illustrations from cross literature

The instructor should specifically involve the students in the language courses by citing them from works of literature in other languages that they would have read in their regional language, whether it be local or national, in order to broaden their experience and pique their interest. Most of the time, the material the instructor is using has a background from a different culture that the student may not understand or be able to relate to. Although the instructor must interpret the book, greater emphasis should be placed on the theme's analysis and debate, as well as attempts to incorporate examples from local literature. The pupils will be tied to the teacher's ideas and into the mainstream as a result of this.

➤ Interactive sessions

Instead of giving a one-sided explanation, the instructor should put more effort into making the class engaging. The less a student participates in class, the more disengaged he becomes and the less he engages in debate. Even if he starts speaking in his native tongue or makes grammatical mistakes, the teacher should still welcome student contributions to the debate. There is only room for interaction when the instructor is willing to accept and let the pupils feel at ease with the subject.

➤ Usage of Technology

If teachers at all educational levels, including elementary, secondary, and higher education, employ technology in their classroom instruction successfully, they will have an advantage over their peers. It is imperative that educators equip themselves with the cutting-edge technology that is most suited for educational objectives. Almost all of the classrooms that we see nowadays have ICT capabilities, which enhances the teacher's authority and impact. Through some of the most effective websites, like YouTube, which is a rich source of knowledge where we can take our students from the text of the real-world experience, they may provide pertinent references and opinions linked to the issue in addition to the text. The instructor might require the pupils to get familiar with the author's references, biography, and other writings. The instructor will frequently be able to watch the film and play it for the pupils, which is really beneficial. It is frequently said that learning proceeds more effectively when done in a visual format.

➤ **Role Plays**

Giving the students more flexibility in the classroom and assigning them role plays based on the literature that has been reviewed are effective ways for the instructor to engage the class. This exercise exposes the students to the craft of script writing and acting while keeping their attention in class and fostering their creative abilities. The outcomes would undoubtedly alter if the focus were switched from being teacher-centric to being student-centric. The topic would be discussed, and indirectly, their language abilities would grow, boosting their confidence.

➤ **Games, Apps or Activity Based Learning**

Students today are more dependent on technology, thus when taught a language through games based on language acquisition, they are always highly attentive and engaged in the lesson. These challenges or activities nudge pupils in the direction of learning. Students will be encouraged to study languages with greater enthusiasm through activities like photo and act/speak, debate competitions on issues from the curriculum, and speech or public speaking competitions. Students might benefit from teaching themselves word building skills via mobile applications or online games like Word search, Word cookies, and Puzzle World.

There are a number of learning-related mobile applications, like Duolingo, Byju's, Dictionary Apps, eBook Apps like Google Playbooks, Kindle, etc., that are easily accessible at the Google Play Store and IOS App Store, giving students who have a passion for reading quick access.

➤ **Research based Assignments**

The instructor should provide homework that requires the students to read other books or explore the resources accessible on the internet in order to go outside the text and engage in real-world activities. This permits and empowers the learner to read various literary sources and get familiar with them. Students' engagement in the learning process will increase if the teacher asks them to make PowerPoint presentations on related topics of interest. Peer learning is frequently beneficial in the classroom. There should be room for open and unrestricted dialogue and individual idea expression.

Findings

To succeed as a teacher, one must adopt the position of a mentor; it is only in this capacity that one can truly connect with his students. A sincere desire to help a pupil grow can only strengthen their relationship. Information overload is prevalent nowadays, in the age of the digital revolution, in all fields. A student does not need to go through the teacher and classrooms to learn the material. In this case, the teacher's job should be that of a facilitator who carefully and attentively leads and guides the students in the appropriate way. With the use of technology instruments, the instructor may succeed by giving each student his or her undivided attention.

We believe that the book should serve as a springboard for the instructor to delve into, express, and introduce the pupils to the lovely world of language and literature. A teacher would find career fulfilment in the achievement of his students. But it is obvious that in order to use ICT and creative practice-based teaching, a teacher must be fully tech-equipped.

Future Scope of Extension

There is an urgent need for the teacher to become familiar with the new technology tools that will bring the instructor and the student together in the quest of learning in order to be effective and hold the attention of these pupils and reach out to them. The situation for many students who believe that learning English is a difficult task can thus be improved by these teaching approaches. These observations are based on the knowledge we have gained through instructing undergrads in the English language. The issues in the classroom and the solutions to address them have been the main topics of this article thus far. In addition to the UGC-required syllabus, we have also discussed the language-learning activities done in the classroom. In order to put UGC in a position to compete with the rest of the world, it is advised that these language learning activities be incorporated into the syllabus through the correct channels.

CONCLUSION

It could be challenging to teach English as a foreign language to young students. Teachers should consider a number of elements in order to engage young students in learning. The results of this study revealed two main themes on the challenges teachers encounter and their teaching methods that may be used to young language learners. This study found that young learners were being taught English language skills using a variety of technology tools that can facilitate teaching English in accordance with modern needs.

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