

ADVANTAGES OF ROLE PLAY METHOD IN TEACHING SPEAKING IN ESL CLASSES

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ABSTRACT:

This article analyses the importance and advantages of role-play methods in teaching speaking skills as a one of the essential skill in ESL classes and its importance on learner's acquiring language. In this article, as well as I will outline several different reasons for using role play in the classroom and I will offer some tips for getting the most suitable out of role play. Role playing is one of the large amount of drama activities which can be listed as a successful educational technique in the foreign language class because of present some important characteristics for its teaching : easy organization, flexibility , it can be open ended , it's funny, it supplies a lot of different experiences , it helps students to deal with some social skills of language and it helps to remember of new vocabulary, expressions , word order and grammar.

KEY WORDS: Role play, techniques, flexibility, social context, fluency.

INTRODUCTION:

English becomes the most language in the world. Almost all the people from many different countries around the world use it to communicate with others. It's because of the importance of English in any field of our life .Speaking is a oral communication language skill of oral communication to show human feelings, thought, idea, emotion or information which helps people to understand each other. Learning language doesn't mean to know only the structure or vocabulary but the most

important thing learning how to use language for communication, how to speak and make people to understand what we speak about. As well as for developing speaking skill the students must organize a good condition to enlarge their speaking vocabulary, to increase the fluency of speaking.

Role plays are essential tool to have in a teaching box but it pays to be aware of where you want them to go. Some teachers are unaware of the possibilities of role play. Some of them think that role play activities do not suitable for classes which impacts the discipline problems and conducting role play would make class to be noisy and untidy. Furthermore, they claim that students may be reluctant to be someone else or their level of foreign language is too low.

Role play is very important technique in teaching speaking because it gives students an opportunity to practice communication in different social context and in different social roles. In addition it also allows students to be creative and to be creative and to put themselves in another person's place for a while. The role play would seem to be the ideal activity in which students could their English creatively and it aims to stimulate a conversation situation in which students might find themselves and give them an opportunity to practice and develop their communication skill.

METHOD:

Role playing develops learner's fluency and accuracy in speaking. The wide range language functions for example apologizing,

greetings, etc., is exercised more than in any other activities. Learner's focus is put on the communication of many rather than on the appropriate use of language {1,113}. Therefore, through role playing teachers may train students speaking skills in any social situations. It means that learners are put in conditions which require speech that is used to communicate socially more than the language necessitated by teaching syllabus{2,6}. The author takes the view that thanks to role playing learners have the possibility to develop the language which is important in social relationships, but which is neglected in teaching syllabus. He also notices that a lot of students believe that the language in foreign language classes is only used to pass on particular information from one person to other.

The next reason for incorporating role playing in ESL classes is that some of the students learn for specific roles in life. They may want to work or travel in worldwide context. It is very advantageous for those students to have tried out in pleasant and safe environment of a classroom with the language they will presumably use. For such learners, role play is a helpful rehearsal and what is more, it allows them not just to acquire phrases, but to learn how to interact in a variety of circumstances.

Role play develops mainly the student's oral skills. It emphasizes the process of communicating, develops more fluency than accuracy and promotes enthusiasm in the classroom which makes the students speak up one of the biggest challenges for teachers today.

We can take into consideration following features of role play technique in teaching speaking skills:

- Role play as a teaching technique has a positive effect on students speaking as

students feel self-confident and speak without fear.

- Role play reduces anxiety and humiliation when speaking up in front of classmates and it helps the students to develop the micro and the macro skills of language.
- Adopting role play as a teaching technique in the teaching and learning process of English learners encourages the students to learn achieve, explore and simulate their creativity imagination and personal likes.

Another advantage of role playing is that learners are given a chance to pretend someone else. Such a technique may help timid students to overcome their shyness of the speaking. Reticent students often have difficulty talking about their experiences or about themselves. The fact that they are someone else makes them feel that their own personality is not implicated. {2.7}

Incorporating the role play into the classroom adds variety, a change of pace and opportunities for a lot of language production and also a lot of fun!

It can be an integral part of the class and not a "one -of" event. If the teacher believes that the activity will work and the necessary support is provided, it can be very successful. However if the teacher isn't convinced about the validity of using role play the activity " will fall flat on its face just as you expected into " (Gilliam Porter Ladousse, 1987). Therefore, if you think positive and have a go, you may be pleasantly surprised!

What is role play?

CONCLUSION:

Role play is any speaking activity when you either put yourself into somebody else's shoes, or when you stay in your own shoes but put yourself into an imaginary situation! Imaginary people- the joy of role play is that students can "become" anyone they like for a short time! The President, the Queen, a

millionaire, a pop star..... The choice is endless. Students also can take on the opinions of someone else.” For and against “debates can be used and the class can be split into those who are expressing views in favor and those who are against the theme.

Imaginary situations - functional language for a multitude of scenarios can be activated and practiced through role play. “At the restaurant”, “Checking in at the airport”, “Looking for lost property” are all possible role plays.

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