

MOTIVATING ACTIVITIES FOR STUDENTS IN LEARNING ENGLISH

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Abstract:

This article brings to light the importance of speaking skills. The author adopts a communicative approach for the enhancement of speaking skills of her students in the class. The researcher focuses on the processes involved in the conversational interaction of the students, thereby conducting such activities in the class which enable her students to be 'able to use the language appropriate to given social context. The author's consideration is that the role of the teacher is a technician or an engineer. The teacher's task is to focus the students' attention, and provide exercises to help them develop language facility; however, to ensure their self-reliance, the teacher should only help the students as much as is strictly necessary.

All our software development today, the communication facilities available to us through internet, our access to a variety of websites, are all being carried out in English. Most of the research works are conducted and compiled in English. Anything written and recorded in this language is read and listened to, in wider circles. As a result, English is being taught and learned around the world as a second language today.

Keywords: Grammar, reading, writing, act, communication, listening, speaking.

Introduction. Language is a tool for communication. We communicate with others to express our ideas, and to know others' ideas as well. Communication takes place where there is a speech available. Without speech we cannot communicate with each other. The importance of speaking skills hence is enormous for the learners of any language. Without speech, a language is reduced to a mere script. The use of language is an activity which takes place within the confines of our community. We use language in a variety of situations. Researchers working either in a medical laboratory or in a language laboratory, are supposed to speak correctly and effectively in-order to communicate well with one another. Any gap in communication results in misunderstandings and problems.

English language has become an international language. Among nations it serves as a Lingua Franca. It is spoken, learnt and understood even in those countries where it is not a native's language. English is playing a major role in many sectors including medicine, engineering, education, advanced studies, business, technology, banking, computing, tourism etc. Language learning today



is regarded less of an 'acquisition of structure' and more of a learning of items of use. The teaching of language in relation to categories of use is likely to have methodological implications.

The methodologies for language teaching therefore are to be based on the Linguistic insights as to the nature of the language and also on the psychological insights as to the processes involved in its use, for the development of communicative competence in the learners. The researcher adopts the techniques, which provide an opportunity to the learners to enhance their communicative competence. An important part of this ability is being able to use the language for self-expression; students should be able to express their thoughts, feelings, and needs in the target language. In order to help them achieve this, teachers emphasize self-reliance. Students are encouraged to actively explore the language, and to develop their own 'inner criteria' as to what is linguistically acceptable.

Motivating activities for students in learning English

When we use the word approach we mean that an idea or theory is being applied: that whatever the teacher does certain theoretical principles are always born in mind. When we talk about a technique we mean a procedure used in the classroom. Finally a method is a set of procedures or a collection of a techniques used in a systematic way which it is hoped will result in efficient learning. A technique then is the narrowest term, meaning one single procedure. A method will consist of a number of techniques, probably arranged in a specific order.

Activeness is largely dependent upon the interest. We know that the main psychological factor naturally conditioning interest is relatedness to self. In order to awaken or stimulate the pupils' interest in English language the teacher will tell them at the very first lesson about the manifold possibilities that open out before each of them at the result of studying that language. The learner should feel a need to learn the subject and have necessary prerequisites created for satisfaction of this need; The main sources of activity are motivation, desire and interest in reading the original interesting and useful books written in English; corresponding with English schoolchildren; conversing with foreign guests to our republic, perhaps visiting or being sent on a mission to one of the countries of the English- speaking nations and converting with the residents in their own language. Exchange of pupils' freedom support, like Act, ACCELS and others. Young people in our republic want to know foreign languages to illustrate this we may refer to the entrance examinations of language departments of higher schools where the competition is great. To the growing number of people who wish to study at various foreign language courses to the desire of parents to send their children to specialized schools and etc. The great desire to study foreign language is observed among pupil of the 5th and 6th grades. In other grades there is a tendency to the loss of interest in language learning. This shows that there is something wrong in teaching this subject. The teachers fail to sustain and develop the desire to learn which pupils have when they start the course. If the teacher wants to stimulate pupil's interest in the subject he should make them use their knowledge for practical needs while talking, reading, doing various exercises of a communicative character which are creative by nature.

Here are some methods to implement in the EFL classroom...

Listening is a skill which requires a great deal of concentration so it is a good idea to limit the time spent on continuous listening. A very motivating activity for students is to let them write and record dialogues. You could also record students' telling a story. Positioning the tape-recorder is also an important matter. Try to use a speaker which directs the sound at the students; after all, you're not teaching the ceiling. Some criteria for choosing tuned material should be taken into consideration.

There are several methods of teaching English to students who are learning the language for the first

time, each with their own unique pros and cons. Depending on the teaching situation, setting, and resources available, any one of these English teaching methods could be right for you and your students.

In this guide, we'll go over the basics of each method and determine what kind of English language student it would work best on. If you or someone you know are trying to learn English for the first time, or improve a current English speaking skill level, check out this elementary English language course for starters.

A Grammatical Approach

A focus on grammar rules is one of the most popular English teaching methods in traditional academic settings, perhaps due to the focus on grammar in native language courses. Teaching English as a second language, according to this approach, should not stray from the model.

This approach can only work if the instructor speaks the first language of the students in addition to English, because much of it is based on the teacher's ability to translate. English grammar rules should be taught conceptually in the student's native language, with examples provided in simple English sentences that the teacher can translate back to the native tongue so that a solid parallel can be drawn. These grammar rules should be strictly enforced, and students should be allowed to practice proper structure and syntax through the use of examples and quizzes.

Also important to this method is vocabulary, as students need a large knowledge bank of English words in order to interpret and form their own English grammar examples. Grammar and vocabulary quizzes fuel this approach, and should be at the forefront of instruction. The English language is examined in terms of grammar rules. Get a firm grasp on this side of the English language with this advanced English grammar course.

Who is this best for?

This approach is best for students who natively speak a language with a dramatically different set of grammar rules from English. The instructor must have a strong grasp of the English language themselves, and the grammar rules of their classroom's native tongue, meaning it's best if all students are coming at English from the same first language.

Principles

Classroom instructions are conducted exclusively in the target language. Only everyday vocabulary and sentences are taught during the initial phase; grammar, reading and writing are introduced in intermediate phase. Oral communication skills are built up in a carefully graded progression organized around question-and-answer exchanges between teachers and students in small, intensive classes. Grammar is taught inductively. New teaching points are introduced orally. Concrete vocabulary is taught through demonstration, objects, and pictures; abstract vocabulary is taught by association of ideas. Both speech and listening comprehensions are taught. Correct pronunciation and grammar are emphasized. Student should be speaking at least 80% of the time during the lesson.

Pedagogy.

The key Aspects of this method are:

I. Introduction of new word, number, alphabet character, sentence or concept (referred to as an Element):

- SHOW...Point to Visual Aid or Gestures (for verbs), to ensure student clearly understands what is



being taught.

- SAY...Teacher verbally introduces Element, with care and enunciation.
- TRY...Student makes various attempts to pronounce new Element.
- MOLD...Teacher corrects student if necessary, pointing to mouth to show proper shaping of lips, tongue and relationship to teeth.
- REPEAT...Student repeats each Element 5-20 times.

NOTE: Teacher should be aware of "high frequency words and verbs" and prioritize teaching for this. (I.e. teach key verbs such as "To Go" and "To Be" before unusual verbs like "To Trim" or "To Sail"; likewise, teach Apple and Orange before Prune and Cranberry.)

II. Syntax, the correct location of new Element in sentence:

- SAY & REPEAT...Teacher states a phrase or sentence to student; Student repeats such 5-20 times.
- ASK & REPLY IN NEGATIVE...Teacher uses Element in negative situations (e.g. "Are you the President of the United States?" or "Are you the teacher?"); Students says "No". If more advanced, may use the negative with "Not".
- INTERROGATIVES Teacher provides intuitive examples using 5 "w"s (Who, What, Where, Why, When) or How". Use random variations to practice.
- PRONOUNS WITH VERBS Using visuals (such as photos or illustrations) or gestures, Teacher covers all pronouns. Use many random variations such as "Is Ana a woman?" or "Are they from France?" to practice.
- USE AND QUESTIONS...Student must choose and utilize the correct Element, as well as posing appropriate questions as Teacher did.

Conclusion.

Methods of foreign language teaching are closely related (connected) to other sciences such as pedagogy, psychology, physiology, linguistics, and some others. Pedagogy is a science connected with the teaching and education of the younger generation. Since methods also deal with the problems of teaching and education, it is most closely related to pedagogy. To study foreign language teaching one must know pedagogy. One branch of pedagogy is called didactics. Didactics studies general ways of teaching in schools. Methods as compared to didactics, study the specific ways of teaching a definite subject. Thus it may be considered special didactics. Pedagogy is the science or general theory, of the bringing up and teaching of children and the young, in other terms, the science of education in the narrower sense and instruction or of education in the wider sense.

As Gattegno says, "The teacher works with the student; the student works on the language." For example, teachers will often give students time to correct their own mistakes before giving them the answer to a question. Teachers also avoid praise or criticism, as it can discourage students from developing self-reliance. I am convinced that learning English plays a significant role in the development of cross-cultural understanding. Getting to know another group of people through the study of their language and culture is a good way to help them to understand and accept differences which exist in our beautiful but pretty anxious world. Galileo said, "You cannot teach a man anything, you can only help him find it within himself." I think language is the most powerful tool we have for reaching out to others. We can use it to express our feelings, spread our ideas and even to establish peace. I'm sure English must be taught with pleasure, because it opens the door into another world: the one of travelling, learning and working. It makes our life less difficult in any country. It's easier to listen to songs, watch films or surf the Net. English can help us everywhere. Learners shouldn't treat English as a foreign language. It's an international language, so it can be

ours as well. As a field of study that involves the interaction of both language and society, sociolinguistics has contributed to help foreign language teaching achieve a greater understanding of the nature of language, along with the understanding of the nature of society.

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