



TEACHING ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE IN RURAL INDIA

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ABSTRACT

Language is a medium of communication through which you can express your vistas. In today's era, English is a globalised language. English is said to be the world's most important language having communicative and educational value. It is a progressive language. It is dynamic and flexible. It is universally renowned for its power of expression and it's literature. English has great impression on the mind of people. According to recent surveys, approximately 4.1 of Indian population employ English. That figure might seem insignificant, but out of the total population it represents 35 millions English speakers. It means India is the largest English speaking community outside the USA & the UK.

INTRODUCTION:

"Communication is a skill that you can learn It's like riding a bicycle or typing. If you're willing to work at it, you can rapidly improve the quality of every part of your life". -Brian Tracy

As compared to urban area, the scenario is quite different in rural and semi urban area. For them, English is the most difficult language. They forget that Language learning is a natural process. The students of rural and semi urban areas in India face such problems because English is not their mother tongue. They have no idea of proper sentence structure. Most of the time, they find themselves unable to write sentence in s+v+o structure. They don't know proper pronunciation, spellings and grammatical rules. They know only grammar, but

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unaware about employment of it in practical use. Students of rural and semi urban area can't realise the importance of English language as a language of communication. You don't pelt mud on their illiteracy of language. Many factors are behind their poverty of English Language.

First reason is that they have been thought English through grammar – Translation method. It was first introduced in prussia in the eighteen century. According to Hawatt, the original motivation was reformist and the main aim was to make language learning easier rather than to stress teaching languages by grammar & translation as it was claimed later. At that time, “Spoken language was, at best irrelevant and accuracy was elevated to the status of a moral imperative.”(Howatt, 1984: 135) Nowadays, we consider this method as one of the most traditional which undoubtedly has many drawbacks. First it has a focus on learning the grammar rules, memorizing and translation, even very difficult text, from one language into another, where as their is no room from group learning and other classroom activities.

Besides this, students in rural area have limitation in vocabulary they are only reciting words. They can't differentiate among noun, adjective, verb and adverb. They are navice about idioms and phrases. The student should be made aware of the fact that it's impossible to find an exact equivalent for every English word. Here is an anecdote related to this. Balvir and Samir are good friends. once upon a time, Andy friend to Samir comes from abroad. He spends some days with Samir's family result of this he becomes friends of Balvir also. One day, Balvir approaches Samir's home with a woman. Andy asks him about this woman , but Balvir doesn't know how to introduce her in English. He speaks that I put vermillion into the parting of her hairs. It creates confusion in Andy's mind instead of this Balvir wants to say that I have married with her. Only students in rural area are not responsible for their educational debacle. Somewhat extent Language teacher's are also responsible for that. They think that how to complete the syllabus instead of incorporating learning experiences in the students. Teacher of English language has to invent a variety of methods to teach English. The teacher has to keep in mind the age of student, his native language, his cultural background and his previous experience with English.

To solve the problem, a systematic approach should be employed. They should use the different skills required for listening, speaking reading and writing language learning should not be tedious for student. They should enjoy the fruit of learning. Teacher should find some way of helping pupils to enjoy their language activities and of building their confidence. Self confidence is the first requisite to great undertakings confidence begets confidence. If you have confidence in your self , others will believe you. The English Teacher should have the wide ranging enthusiasm and Imagination. For enriching vocabulary of student, they can use flash card on the front side of flashcard different words are prescribe and back of this their meanings for example, on the front side of flashcard magnanimous word is given. Teacher

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will tell them story by his imagination, after listening this story student will tell the meaning of word i.e. a large hearted person . Many words are known to students, so it is prime duty of teacher that they should provide new vocabulary to them for example ‘commense’ words for ‘start’, ‘captivative’ for ‘attract’. For building their imagination and general awareness provide them newspaper cutting and speculate on what may happen in the future. Teacher can instruct them for using model verb could/ may/ might. For eg.

scientists have developed a soyabased fuel for cars, which may one day replace petrol.

Students in rural area find difficulties in recognition of noun, adjective and adverb. Suffixes and Prefixes will be introduced to them. For making noun, they use Suffixes like, -ness, -ship, -dom, -ence, -ance and for adjective, they use suffixes like -able, -ible, -ful, -ous, -ly. If the teacher instruct them for saying nouns, they will tell nouns like business, friendship, resistance etc. In this way, they can differentiate different parts of speech also.

Swami Vivekanand said that faith faith, faith on yourself is the secrete of success. Teachers should believe on them. Teachers should not doubt their potential as student in rural area. They should not demoralise them. Fluency in the speech, proper knowledge of sentence pattern, bunch of vocabulary, confidence of speaking in the group will make them able to keep their pace with the shining India. Knowledge of English boost them for surviving in competitive world also.

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