IMPORTANCE OF ACTIVITY BASED SECOND LANGUAGE LEARNING AT THE COLLEGE LEVEL

Dr. R.Karthikeyan

Assistant Professor of English,

Anjalai Ammal-Mahalingam Engineering College, Kovilvenni-614 403.

Learning is a continuous process in the life of every human and each and every experience is the lesson in their own life for further perfectness in the world. The mistakes of every life learn for perfect approach in the future. Without any experience the humans cannot achieve in their life. Language perfection is also depending upon their usages in their active participation. Humans are bound to get for perfection. In India, though there are many languages spoken and written in form, only few of them are literally very active and they are being used in everyone's regular life. English is one among them, which is inevitable in the form of written and spoken. It cannot be said, it is only for education citizen and it is common for everyone mostly used by even uneducated citizen unknowingly in their life.

Communication skills have a great impact on the success of an individual. A person's ability to stand apart in a crowd is more often than not determined by his/her communication skills, even so more with his/her proficiency in English language. Be it career or relationships, the harsh truth in today's global scene is that the future of any person is affected strongly by his communication skill in English.

THE FOUR MAJOR SKILLS OF LISTENING, SPEAKING, READING AND WRITING PROVIDE THE RIGHT KEY TO SUCCESS.

Teaching of English language while ensuring focus on all these four skills provides a platform for the learners to sharpen their proficiency in this English language well. A perfect programme for teaching-learning of English as a second language would involve content for all the above mentioned four skills. It is observed that in some way the reading and writing skills are given more significance over the other two skills.

Preferably, listening and speaking should acquire importance over reading and writing when any language is being learnt. The benefits of naturally acquiring language can be improved astonishingly when the opportunity to listen and speak in the goal language is accelerated.

Content designed specifically for providing sufficient teaching material is important for this purpose. Digital language learning labs with audio based content permit the learners to listen to authentic and appropriate sounds of the target language, in this case English. This helps them with listening to the right articulation of words and with sufficient access to audio based passages and articles.

This intensive listening ultimately helps the learners to lift-up the exact articulation of words. Listening to a lot of audio based articles also allows the learners to understand the spoken language even when the pace of speech, pronunciation or tone varies. This proves beneficial for them in the real world, where the control over such factors is minimal.

These and other paralinguistic attributes like voice quality, volume and tone, articulation and pronunciation, offered by digital language labs enable the learners to improve their speaking skills and thus express fluently in English.

Reading and writing are skills normally addressed adequately in a regular and an average classroom situation. When taught with a teaching-learning emphasis on inferring the meaning of the context, it actually coaches the learners to deduce meaning of any unseen text they may face in future whether it is in audio or in the written form. Skimming texts and reading and understanding of textual materials could be introduced in the classroom to acquire effective reading skills.

Writing skills may be improved through giving exercises on composition and creative writing. Learners should be encouraged to arrange their thoughts on a giving topic or composition. The importance of sequencing their thought groups should be shown to them to bring cohesiveness and consistency in their writing. With these four skills addressed equally while learning English, the learners can be assured of having good communication skills, a very great necessity in today's competitive world.

With the modern trend and technology, the four skills are to be taught in a practical way. The students who are lack in LSRW are due to lack of practice in its way. It shows its importance of making them to be practically. All the four skills are bound in it. The skills of

four get its own dignity and its richness. Great scholars are giving equal importance to each of them. The listener listen a conversation and react it perfectly, not only a good listener but also very good at the other three skills too. If the listener is not proper in listening, he cannot be good at others too. When we want to make everyone is to be skilful in LSRW, it is to be taught in a practical way. So conducting English classes through activity base is very essential in its way.

When students enter college for their higher education they should be somewhat skilful in the second language. But due to the lack of the second language, they are being taught once again the so called importance of the Grammar. To make them to be skilful, they need to be given practical exposures with the help of modern equipments. According to the researcher, the four skills should be taught practically, before that they should have been mastered in grammar for their right application at the college level.

Second language learners have to assume themselves as child to learn and practice right from the beginning. For making to be good at Reading, they should be provided many activities, which making them for its fluency. They must read loudly at the classroom at least 30 minutes everyday to improve for its pronunciation and fluency. Otherwise the students cannot be master in it. While reading, they must have a dictionary for the confirmation of its meaning when there is a doubt in it. The students have to learn at least 10 new English words everyday with its perfect sentences. If a reader does the activity in a regular basis, the reader itself can realise the development in Reading.

After reading, the learner has to concentrate on speaking. According to the learner of the second language, speaking is the most difficult skill to practice. Practice alone will be the most predominant method to enhance the skill. Speaking is a very important skill, which requires an active contribution from both of them. Speaking on current issues and regular activities of each and everyone will make us to be comfortable. The learner should have an individual action and activity in his own atmosphere or place. The learner must stand in front of the mirror to have some select title presentation. Through theses kind of various activities the learner can be fluent in spoken.

After speaking, reading is an important and very toughest skill among them. Reading is always rich in its vocabulary. The reading article of an author would be always skilful and rich in all ways. In terms of the vocabulary, reading is having some difficulties in understanding of the meaning of the given words in the context. Some authors are very rich

in vocabulary and could have used jargons in an article. To improve reading skill, a special attention is to be paid and the learner must spend some amount of time with the reading part everyday. Reading louder the terms will make us to be comfortable. Reading will give us the chance of recalling past at the present. Great scholars and world leaders of many are fond of reading. Reading maketh a full man.

At last, writing is in the list. Writing is the skill, the final stage of the learner. When the learner is filled with knowledge, he/she will start to write the experience in their book. Writing an article is not an easy work. It is having of its own risk and difficulties. The writer cannot make mistakes in his writing, when which is possible in other three skills partly. When we listen, we cannot bring out all the listened ideas 100 per cent. Similarly, reading and speaking also have some freedom in its work, but writing should be unique when the writer is skilful and unique.

CONCLUSION

Every skill is having its own richness in its applications. All are to be equally responded and every skill is required of its practical applications. The learner is to approach the four skills practically, better if possible with the modern technologies. With the modern technologies, the four skills can be taken to the receiver with its right spirit and it may reach perfectly. If the learners are being given activity base applications, it will really reach and it would be effective and the learners will develop in their career.