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LET THEM ENJOY THE LEARNING OF LINGUA FRANCA

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ABSTRACT

English language has become the 'Lingua Franca' in many parts of the world. So the ability of communicating in English has become an imperative task. In this connection the role of the teacher has become crucial. Teaching to children is a challenging task as they expect something fun from the teacher. So it is the duty of a teacher to provide 'Infotainment' for the children. Without using a regular and traditional way involve the children and create a feeling in them that they should love to learn the language. For this instead of typical methods the teacher should try to use atypical methods. Start the class with a warm smile and create an atmosphere in which children should feel comfort. Once they feel it they will ready to participate in any kind of activity and enjoy learning. Divide the class into groups and design a game like activity to teach language. As kids love games they will love to participate in the activity. We can teach nouns, verbs which are important elements of English language effectively and easily. As communication is the main intention of any language it should be taught in a way that they must enjoy learning.

Key Words: Lingua Franca, Infotainment, Typical, Atypical, Challenging, Intention

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English language has become the 'Lingua Franca' in many parts of the world so the language ability is an essential thing to everyone in this modern and technical age. Despite there are numerous books and websites to learn the language, the learner still faces the difficulty. So it is imperative to innovate a way which is easy and quite interesting for student to acquire the ability of English language. Teaching to professional students and graduates may not be an arduous task for the teacher as they are grown ups but to teach children particularly a language is really a challenging task. Teacher should bring their attention under his

control and make the class an amusing and interesting one because the children learn more quickly than the adults if they were taught in an interesting way.

In this connection the role of a language teacher is crucial in the class. Students may not aware of the importance of English language and the fruits they are going to get in the outer world if they have that ability as we already did discuss that they are children. So the teacher should try to give 'infotainment' that is the combination of providing some entertainment besides giving some information.

As this is a kind of activity oriented teaching technique, takes the help of two or three teachers' assistance which we call 'Team Teaching'. Now the time has come and students are waiting for the teacher to come. After entering into the class with out giving some information about the language directly try to make some rapport with them. Ask their names, where they come from and their favourite colour, game etc... By asking all these details the children do feel better with the teacher and they will be ready to pay some attention towards the class. This process should last for 5-7 minutes because the primary purpose is ahead that is teaching them language ability.

Now as a part of that teacher may start the following method to teach some basics of vocabulary and grammar to school children. Teacher rather stating 'in this class today we are going to learn' which creates a baffling situation to students can state that lets play a game all of us. Are you ready to play with me/will you allow me to join in the play? Their response with out a doubt would be yes sir in a loud tone. Children love games and as a teacher if we can involve them our goal is fulfilled. Teacher has to apply 'joy and easiness' principle in which children can learn anything that can give joy to them and easy to do. So the game of language starts and this comprises some stages and steps to make it more lucid and interesting to the kids.

STAGE 1

Step 1: The teacher should divide the class into groups based on the number. Later teacher has to announce a word and ask the first group to give a word (any word) from the last letter of the word they have heard from the teacher.

Step 2: Now the first group gives a word and the second group must form a word from the last letter of the word they heard from the previous group.

E.g.: Teacher says *God*. So the first group should start a word with the last letter of the previous one. Here in this case D is the last letter. So the first group says '*Day*'. Later second group should give a word with y and they say '*year*'. The process continues.

This is the basic level. Here the groups can form different words based on their word power.

Now the process becomes a little bit interesting and tests the group's level of thinking.

STAGE 2

Here another teacher comes into action and gives a word with a condition. Here the condition is the group has to give a word which must be the name of any bird/animal/town/person.

E.g.: Teacher says *board* then the first group should give a word like *dove* from this the second group forms another word like *elephant*. The third group gives *Thomas* and the fourth group gives *England*.

Here the teacher gets an opportunity to teach the grammatical element 'Nouns' with out explaining in a traditional way. Now the teacher asks the students that could any one of them guess the game they had played till then. Students may not give the answer as they did not have the knowledge of grammar yet. So the teacher can demonstrate that the words you have given now are the examples of Nouns. Immediately any one of the students can question the teacher that what are nouns? Then it's the time to explain more clearly for the teacher about nouns that any word that indicates the name of a bird/animal/town/person is called a noun.

STAGE 3

Now teacher gives some work to the children that each student should bring in the following class ten nouns. Children with their enthusiastic attitude towards a new thing may not consider that work as homework but an opportunity to play more time and with more people. So they will interact with their family members and their neighbours and specifically with their class mates which can create a peer group interaction. They will get ready to ask the names to their parents what ever the bird/animal they happened to see on the road. So with a kind of activity like this teacher can make his class more effective one.

STAGE 4

Now all the students must be waiting for the teacher to check their ground work regarding nouns and they can definitely ask to conduct another game for them.

In this case the third teacher will announce that he is going to conduct another game/activity. Here the teacher again divides the students in groups and asks them to tell about any work that they had done since morning to night on the previous day.

Here the process is the first group should give a word from the last letter of the word given by the teacher as usual but the second group unlike the first group must form a word of action from the first letter of the word given by the previous group. The process continues.

E.g.: Teacher says 'wow', based on the last letter of that word, the first group says a word that denotes an action as 'woke', second group gives a word of action from the first letter of the previous group like 'wash'. The process continues, next batch gives 'hail'.

Students can form the actions they did since morning to night like walk, run, jump, eat, read, watch, sleep etc.

After the activity is over teacher asks them what we call all these works/actions you said till now. As they can't we should give answer as "verbs". For their more understanding ability tell them that the words indicate action/work are called 'verbs'.

To make it more interesting the students should be given a work that they should collect some actions/works their parents did on that day. Here they may get some more verbs like interact, present, participate, drive, withdraw, bargain etc.

With these four simple stages children can be taught basics of language like words, nouns and verbs. So as we are aware of the principle that 'involve me I will learn' should apply in the classroom to get a fruitful output.

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