



INTERNATIONAL
STANDARD
SERIAL
NUMBER
INDIA

2395-2636 (Print);2321-3108 (online)

ENGLISH LANGUAGE: CONNECTING THE WORLD

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ABSTRACT

English language is very prominent and significant in the present era. It can be said that it serves as a language connecting the globe. The advantages of learning English in modern India are numerous. The power of language develops in tune with its use as a medium of administration, education, trade and international relations. English language serves all the purposes. The preference for English education has grown over the years on account of the opportunities in our country. It is very privileged in India. It has its hold on the people as an aspirational language in a multilingual country like India. The present paper explores the significance of English, its utility in our modern everyday life.

Keywords: English language, communication, knowledge, technology

English language has proved to be a medium of expression in the present scenario. Its prominence and necessity can't be denied. It can be said that English has become a global language for exchange of ideas, knowledge and information. No matter a person is a doctor, engineer or in any specific field, one can't succeed without effective communication in English. It has set a benchmark, a standard in every walk of life. Almost in all job interviews, if one is unable to present oneself perfectly and speak in English, it is considered to be a major drawback.

"Because without our language, we have lost ourselves. Who are we without our words?"-1

It was Lord Macaulay who introduced English in Indian education system. English has a very prominent role in our everyday lives. The utility of English in the modern world can't be neglected. India is a land of countless regional languages. If the English language is totally abolished, the office work would be affected adversely. Most people who go to offices have a knowledge of English, but many of them do not know other languages besides the

language of their region. They interact with one another in English for their everyday work.

English plays a very essential role for interstate communication. India has many states and the people of each state communicate in their regional language and are unable to speak or understand the language of the people of other regions. English becomes a link between such people in a lot of cases. There are some benefits, certainly, of regional languages over English but still, there is a need and necessity of English language in our life.

English is one of the most essential global language. Most of the recent transactions at the international level were concluded in English. It has a significant contribution in lessening the distance between geographical boundaries. The advantages of learning English can be witnessed in the economic, social and political life of the people of India. India wants to become a powerful country and, therefore, has undertaken the huge task of developing its economy. The people update the knowledge of the different branches of science in

order to fulfil this. The progress is not possible without expert engineers, technicians and mechanics. They are needed in increasing numbers. Language is our primary medium of communication. It is the method through which we share our thoughts with others.

“Effective communication is a vital part for organization success, whether it is in the interpersonal intra group organization or external levels. Your ability to transmit information helps both clients and employees feel they can communicate with and ultimately trust you.”-2

It is even said that language distinguishes us from animals and makes us human. There are a lot of languages in the world. Various countries have their own national languages and a variety of local languages spoken and understood by people. Some languages are spoken by millions while others by only a few.

English was basically the language of England, but with the help of the influences of the British Empire, it is now the primary or secondary language of many previous British colonies like United States, Australia, India and Canada. In the modern era, English is the primary language of not only former British colonies, but of many business and cultural spheres which are dominated by those countries. It is the language of international banking and business.

There are several factors that make the English language essential to communication in our current times. It is the most common foreign language. The people who come from different countries usually use English as a common language to communicate. Therefore, everybody needs to learn the language in order to get in touch on an international level. Speaking English helps communicate with people from countries all over the world.

English is also essential in the field of education. Children are taught and encouraged to learn English as a second language. In the countries like Netherlands and Sweden where English is not an official language, there are many syllabi in science and engineering written in English language. It is so because it is the dominant language in the sciences. Most of the research studies in any given specific

field are written in English. The students in many countries study almost all their subjects in English to make the matter more accessible to international students. The majority of websites are written and created in English. Even sites in other languages give us the option to translate the site.

English is the primary language of the press. More newspapers and books are written in English than in any other language, and no matter where in the world we are, we find some of these newspapers and books available. It is so dominant in international communication that we generally get more information and data regarding nearly every subject. One can travel around the globe with good understanding and communication in English. As it is the international language for the foreigners, it is easy to get in help in, almost every part of the world. English is always a booking option in any travel booking site.

English skills help us a lot in any business venture we select to follow. If we go to some offices, companies, government organizations and even engineering companies, one can see the importance of English. Any big company will recruit their professional staff after knowing whether the people they are selecting are good at English or not. Companies operating at international level only consider staff who are good English speakers, writers and readers. A growing nation like India has to protect itself against international dangers. Under such circumstances, the selection of language to be studied by the youth of India becomes very important.

English is the storehouse of scientific knowledge. Therefore, its study is of great importance for our country. India's foreign policy is the focus of attention for all the countries of the world. The entire world wants to satisfy its need for peace and harmony with this policy. India wants to be friendly with all the countries. It needs to elaborate and satisfy others that its outlook is correct. This cannot happen without an effective medium for the exchange of ideas. English serves as such medium. It enjoys the status of an International language. If India wants to be an important part of international matters, its people must study English. The people of India speak their regional languages.

The leaders and administrators of the country cannot be in contact with all these regions without a common language.

English is the best suitable language for internal unity. English is the most necessary medium of national integration with terrorism spreading in various parts of the country. Major technological and scientific advancements have been written in English language. This is the age of science and technology. The world is transforming at a great speed. It is because of the scientific progress that the other countries have made. If we want to keep pace with these nations growing rapidly, technological and scientific research must be done in our nation. We can progress only with the help of knowledge of such subjects. That's why we have to rely on English. English must be taught to our people as good and useful books on such subjects are available in English only.

It is very important that we study the best literature for proper mental development. If we want to broaden our minds and remove the feeling of false superiority, we should always be ready to take the best from others. The literature of other countries and of our own regional languages is easily accessible in English. Modern uptodate literature is not available in our own regional languages. Many young people go abroad for advanced studies. They require proper knowledge of English. Its necessity for scholars is great.

It can be said that English language has now become an inseparable channel for communication in India besides our mother tongue and other regional languages. This has paved the course of English teaching in the country. "English language teaching has undergone radical adjustments with the arrival of new methodologies and strategies in the last few years."-3

Its thorough knowledge boasts the teaching needs and employment. The role of English has made it convenient to conceive any notion which is pertained to some other language. English language facilitates the Western thoughts with liberating attitude towards everything. India is now observed as a major center of the world software of development. Many software companies have set up in the country with an outlook to spread their

network benefits. The transforming patterns of culture have been dominant in our society due to which we are compelled to experiment another level of mindset and that mindset is of English culture. English language has been leading as a fast growing adopted language.

"English in our country has contributed to the cultural hybridism, which is also a characteristic of the post modern world. Based on this view, it is necessary to examine our current approaches and practices in the teaching and learning of English."-4

The states with various cultures, regional languages and attitudes are connecting to one another due to English language. A common medium of expression and communication enables people belonging to different platforms to join hands and share their ideas and exchange the information. Nagaland is a state which is entirely dominated by English language and culture. Major boarding and significant public schools in India are totally equipped with English atmosphere. Many Indian scholars go to English speaking countries for some or the other business of their interest.

The medium of instruction has changed from the local dialect to English in Indian higher education. English language was observed as a language of trade and commerce at the beginning of the phase of globalization. It can be assumed as the commencement of another sort of globalization which has its expression in language power. Therefore, the use of English alongwith Hindi and other regional languages is very significant. It must be studied as an important foreign language. It should be the medium of instruction in science and technology and in the subjects of the higher classes. At the same time, the regional languages, which are an important treasure should not be ignored and neglected.

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