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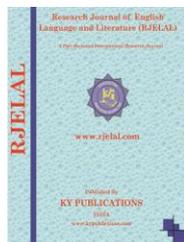
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ACTIVITIES FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE ACQUISITION AS A SECOND LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS

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Abstract

English has significant role in education system not only in Indian but also abroad. Wherever people communicate in English language are given preference and considered belonging to high society. That's the reason it has become the most influential and business language among the people who are belonging to different languages and cultures. Due to this as a language it is taught across the globe. Books are available only in English language if students are belonging to specific courses like Engineering, Medical and Management. Apart from education system, English has become the medium of communication in Different professions. People who are fluent in speaking English language get advantage whenever they communicate in English. And in society he/she believed that they are confident and can get good education and score well during his/her academics. So that's the social and moral responsibility of English language teacher to nurture confidence among students and enable them to face challenges related to communication skills and English language. For the positions related to education or any other cooperate jobs communication skills are the highly demanded skills and if employer got the person with sound communication skills believed eligible for the advertised position. The present research Paper describes activities to be conducted in the classroom by teacher of English Language and communication skills.

Keywords: Group discussion, Communication skills, Activities

Introduction

In the classroom of communication skills in engineering colleges, atmosphere of conducting activities is negligible. Teachers of communication skills emphasis on completing the syllabus of communication skills only rather than developing communication skills in students; this is the cause of having lack of communication skills among students. If a teacher can utilize the time of communication skills lecture and language lab then it can be possible to conduct some activities for developing communication skills among students.

For conducting activities like group discussion and debate teacher must be a good communicator and must have a knowledge of current affairs if teacher fails to update himself then he/she would never be able to make students a good communicator [1]. As far as the syllabus of communication skills is concerned it can be covered up within three months and students hardly read books of communication skills comparatively as the other technical subjects and even then they obtain good marks in communications skills, few students fail in communication skills. But desired goal of improving

communication skills and become a good communicator is not achieved. If teaching and learning communication skills are based on activities and if these activities conducted in every lecture of communication skills so, the results can be achieved. For getting better results students and teacher ratio should be 20:1. in engineering colleges generally student and teacher is 60:1 and students and teachers both are expected to perform well by upper staff. In other words, it is an injustice to both students and teachers. For obtaining good results if students are divided on the basis of their communication skill competence and handled to other teachers then we can expect good results from teachers and students. If following activities are conducted for improving communication skills among students then students may become good communicators [2].

1) **Group discussion:** when two or more people come together and communicate over any topic related to politics, technology, sports, or any other topics relevant to social issues can be called group discussion. During the group discussion people share their views, ideas, opinions and exchange their information to each other. Group discussion generally conducted among eight to twelve members belonging to same or different professions. The main objective of conducting group discussion is to develop leadership skills, communication skills, and analytical skills, interpersonal and intrapersonal skills. As far as communication skills are concerned it is the highly demanded skills in corporate as well as in public sector. Group discussion has become an integral part of selection process. Some People have a misconception about communication skill; they think that if a person can speak flawless English it means he has good communication skills. But communication is not only about English language but also about knowledge, the way of presenting it in effective and convincing manner. In group discussion candidate's intellectual qualities, mental caliber, social traits and suitability for a job are assessed. That's the reason for developing a personality of students group discussion is conducted in

educational institutes [3]. When a candidate sits and communicates with others, his mental faculties become active and whatever knowledge he/she possesses about the topic expresses among members. A dull mind has no place in this present scenario; group discussion arouses speaking ability and thinking capacity of the members of the group. It ascertains the power of reasoning, communication skills, systematic approach and the spontaneity of thoughts and actions. While having group discussion one's talking manner, tone, the way of expressing view points and coordinating skills are evaluated. An examiner assigns the topic for the discussion and starts evaluating the right candidates for the organization. Potential candidates appear in the further selection process.

2) **Debate:** it has a vital importance for assessing the critical and analytical thinking of the candidate, it has become the part of presidential election in the United States of America, and recently Hilary Clinton and Donald trump had a debate to demonstrate their caliber for the post of president in the United States of America. As far as the role of debate to learn English language is concerned, it is conducted by educational institute throughout the academics for students. It is conducted in the form of competition as well. It is free from any profession or specialization; people can have debate over any topic related to any domain. It has been observed that students those who have good command over English language and have sharp communication skills take actively part in such activity. Fortunately, if participants have keen knowledge about the given topic so it would be like a pearl in the oyster. Debate can cultivate the habit of persuasion, activates you to respond instantly with correct knowledge and idea. It sharpens the communication skills of candidates and makes candidate open minded to think out of the box. It ignites creativity to represent their views and opinions with logic, facts and figures. In the classroom weak students lack communication skills when they

watch students who actively part and perform well then they realize that they also can try to speak English language [4].

- 3) **Extempore:** it is an activity generally conducted in the classroom to develop the thought progression among students and one minute is given to gather the thoughts over a given topic by teacher it is the only activity which shows that fluency and spontaneity of the students because the topic is not given in advance it is given only on the spot and students do not have more time to collect the thoughts over the topic. This activity does not show only leadership and communication skills but also the confidence and creativity of thoughts of the students [5].

Conclusion

Conducting group discussion and debate among good students in front of weak students can be beneficial for weak as well as good students. If teacher takes initiative to conduct these activities on regular basis and keeps he updated with current affairs then debate and group discussion will not only be the way to improve communication skills and English language but also will be the way to get updated with current affairs for all students and teachers as well. So the teachers of communication skills and English language have an urgent need to bear the responsibility if they wish that their students become good communicator and could face any challenge in coming future.

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