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English: The Bridge between Academic and Professional excellence

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Abstract:

Communication Soft skills are the best practice followed at present in the institutions, both for career and self development. It's a communicative approach to the learning of English as a second language, which is contrary to traditional approaches (i.e. chalk and talk). The sessions are targeted and segregated into four parts to meet the requirement of campus recruitment – listening, speaking, reading and writing; based on the Functional – Notional approach to teaching second language. English has two separate systems – Spelling and Pronunciation (26 letters and 44 phonemes) to help students understand both American as well as a British accent. Students from rural background are gaining more from social media and internet apart from academics for molding them. Reading books not only facilitate the students get to write summary, but also their point of view, on characterization and their learning's which help them in achieving good vocabulary and language. Apart from these four (LSRW), rules of grammar or grammatical structures should be given importance to target a specific purpose in communication which leads to successful employment.

Keywords: Structures, vocabulary, LSRW, Soft skills, communication.

Ordinary to Litigious: It is important when you write- apart from very informal texts, emails, latest chats on social media etc- that one is expected to use correct standard and typo-free / without spelling mistakes. Not to forget the punctuation. Wrong use of apostrophe or verb form can lead to disastrous misunderstanding or it may not be considered altogether. Spoken form of English is quite different from writing. In verbal structure, one may consider plurals or minute mistakes but in documentation, non-standard English should completely be avoided. Customized English grammar is in existence as a result of people applying the grammar of Latin to English (most of the words in English are taken from Latin). For instance, someone who objects to the use of word DATA as a singular noun (because it is plural in Latin), may be quite happy to use the agenda and stamina as singular nouns, even though they are Latin plurals too.

With changing drift in technology and globalization one should abide in mind that

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the language changes. The language used by EM Forster of the 20th century is quite poles apart from William Shakespeare writing of the 16th century, but EM Forster was not ridiculed for his lingo as wrong/incorrect English. With new words/vocabulary in the English language happen frequently, even the grammar structure of sentences changes and changing. British English is getting influenced by American English, although some disagree this, some pick up new usages with gusto.

For instance when asked "How are you?" many British people would now say 'Good Thanks', or even 'I am good', which would not have been heard even five or ten years ago. However, there are many issues where people disagree, and is always, important to think of your audience.

Spellings is the process of using letters to represent a word /arrangement of letters based on the sound and origin there is one arrangement of letters that is accepted as the correct spelling. Correct use of spellings while writing can be understood as a confident expression; wrong spellings can make it difficult to be understood as well as creates a wrong impression. Maximum words are spelled with a combination of vowel and consonants. The reason behind it is based on the movement of mouth/ lips (for sounds) for the pronunciation of different consonants.

Words can be easily written if one knew which letter represents which sound; of course if every letter represents one sound and one sound only. Some languages like Italian Telugu (most of the Indian languages) letters are represented by the sound; once you know the spellings it is easy to know sound or vice-versa. English is only twenty-six letter language but each letter represents more than one sound which leads to forty-four sounds. However, there are other factors which mention that it is not always easy to predict how an English word is spelled. The fact that letters can have multiple uses means that when one sees a word one cannot automatically know how it will be pronounced. The most significant issue is that some sounds can be represented by different combinations of letters. The Extraordinary feature of English language is its readiness to accept words from any language.

Cluster of many languages: The roots of many are basically from Anglo-Saxon and French- which have two different spelling systems but Scientist prefers classical languages of Latin and Greek for describing their discoveries or inventions. The English language is considered as living language as it is filled with contributions from European languages like Italian, Spanish, German, Dutch and from Eastern languages like Turkish, Arabic, Hindi, Chinese, Japanese and Urdu – but without changing

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the spellings patterns. Speaking Skills: Practice through different activities like role plays, GD, JAM, presentations, etc. will help the students in not repeating their mistakes and perform with confidence. Even though students from rural background are gaining more from social media and internet apart from academics for molding themselves it is preferred that they had good awareness through academics so that the segregated jargon is practiced.

Reading and Writing: Learning and knowledge is enhanced only through acquainting self to many examples and learning tasks, for this the students must be motivated to read newspapers and personality development books. They will not only get to write summary, but also their point of view, on characterization and their learning's which help them in achieving good vocabulary and language.

Concept of Silent Letters: Silent letters are the most confusing and most posted question. Some words contain letters which are not sounded/ pronounced when the word is said. The simple answer often these letters are sounded in the original form of the word. Change of Time the combination of these words became simplified, but of course not the spelling of new pronunciation. English spellings need some work to be perfect. Instead of fright once understood the system one can become

confident about how to spell words easily. Listening skills: Unlike Indian languages, English has two separate systems – Spelling and Pronunciation (26 letters and 44 phonemes) to help students understand both American as well as a British accent. The curriculum should be designed to make the students/ learners aware of native English speaking or acceptable pronunciation.

Communicating the Communication: A expansive approach to the learning of English as a second language or any language for that matter can be segregated into four components – listening, speaking, reading and writing; based on the Functional – Notional approach to the teaching of the second language. This process [ref: figure 1] can multiply skills acquired especially Communication skills that are the best applied for career and self-development. A very flexible and comfortable way of ordering ideas for better communication is to use mind maps or spider maps. One can start with an important/central idea and work through using branches leading outwards. The more detailed the more branches and more information to express/ communicate. As the information transferred to the listener through different channels like speaking, writing, media (print, mass & social) and technology can be interpreted easily through proper cognition of the concepts may be or may not be with acceptable

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perception. The perception is expressed with action or reaction to the orator.

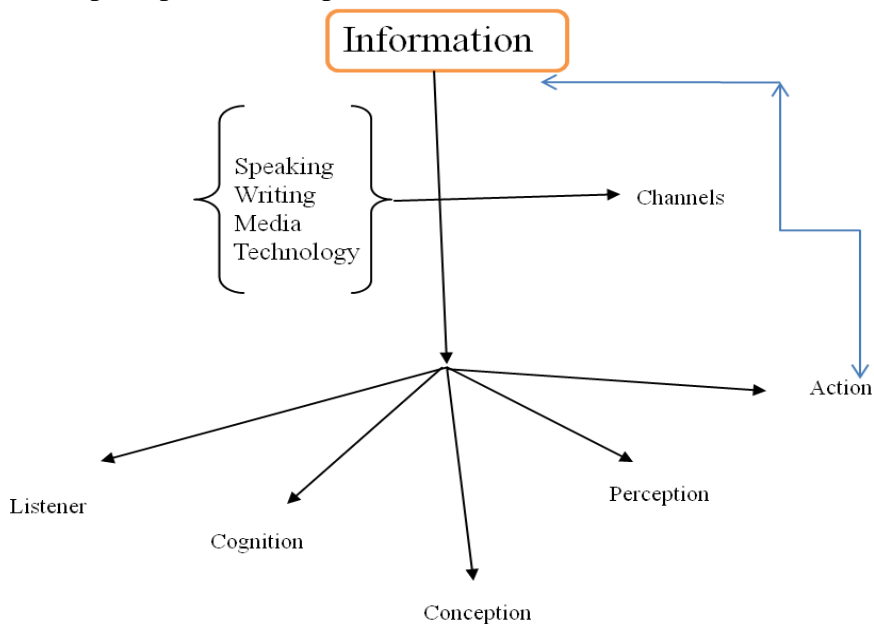


Figure 1 : Communicating the communication cycle

The cycle of communication shifts the listener to speaker to bring required reaction. It is very easy to use more words but too many words will be effective and annoy the listeners or the readers. Knowingly or unknowingly many non native English speakers use “Have seen you at 9-00a.m today morning.” Where they forget that a.m. is equal to the concept of morning. Similarly, use of prefixes “...to go for re-examining again” where prefix ‘re’ means again. Sometimes excess usage of words for instance - return back (return mean giving something back), call back (call itself mentions the action based on situation).

The procedure will facilitate the students to acquire the ability to orate efficiently with

actual examples. Inculcating the habit of reading apart from prescribed syllabi will improve vocabulary active or passively. Familiarizing or exposing the students to rhetorical situations enables them to write formal letters and reports. Listening and speaking skills with a combination of Soft skills develop students’ people skills. This transition can guarantee excellent and confident performance at placement process be it Group Discussion or interviews

As Oller and Damico (1991) point out that language excellence can be linked with three disciplines of contemplation – trend, approach and proficiency: “...components of phonology, morphology, lexicon, syntax later divided into distinct inventories of elements like sounds, phonemes, syllables, morphemes, words, idioms, phrases...”

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Language proficiency test formats are designed to check phoneme discrimination so that the test taker can be analyzed. Similarly, vocabulary based test is followed to check efficiency of the standards so that the students are tuned to any competitive exam. Finally, the whole concept of test is to equip students with LSRW skills for both academic and professional front.

Quick Analysis:

Generated close ended questionnaire (ref: table-1) to quantify the reason behind students challenges in updating or usage for better performance. The questionnaire is framed to help student identify their mistakes or can be used as self analysis. As we know English language unites people from multiple regions, cultures and nations. Similarly, it will create a bond between people with multiple education and exposure. English as a skill if gained can

broaden the scope of employment as well the confidence in communication. Presently many prominent institutes across India especially south have Communication Soft Skills or Language development courses for their students. This questionnaire (ref: table-1) can trigger students’ mindset in enhancing their language skills along with their technical or professional course. In fact, many organizations ensure that these skills are imbibed by the students before entering into corporate world. No instant performance will work so requested the sample size to understand the questions before answering. The questionnaire (ref: table-1) is framed to bring out challenges faced while using English language on daily basis including academic usage in order to make student understand that English language practice is more than fifty percent.

Language usage in daily life				
Languages	<i>Very often</i>	<i>Often</i>	<i>Rarely</i>	<i>Never</i>
English				
Mother Tongue				
Usage of English in Day to Day Conversation				
Communication Skills	<i>Very often</i>	<i>Often</i>	<i>Rarely</i>	<i>Never</i>
Listening				
Speaking				
Reading				
Writing				
Usage of English in Education				
Communication Skills	<i>Very often</i>	<i>Often</i>	<i>Rarely</i>	<i>Never</i>
Listening				
Speaking				

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Reading				
Writing				
Contemplating English sentences (Listening)				
lectures				
non technical subjects				
technical subjects				
online lectures				
native speakers				
Contemplating English sentences (Speaking)				
framing sentences				
Responding				
Unexpected situations				
Technical symposiums				
Contemplating the learned Topics (Reading)				
Academic syllabi				
NEWS				
Reference materials				
contemplate in performance (Writing)				
Exams				
Assignments				
Projects				
Proposals				
e-mails				

Table 1 : questionnaire for contemplating students' language usage

Conclusion: An unyielding basis for effective teachers of today and tomorrow lay in the hands of a good influential learning. 360-degree endeavor to highlight the concerns of the second language (English) teaching in education programs is a herculean task. The concerns of both pedagogical learning include quality as well as quantity. The long-standing approach of chalk and talk method and communicative language teaching/learning – conflicts with learning and utilizing the roles and

responsibilities of teachers and students in second language acquisition is not recommended. English is only twenty-six letter language but each letter represents more than one sound which leads to forty-four sounds. However, there are other factors which mention that it is not always easy to predict how an English word is spelled. The fact that letters can have multiple uses means that when one sees a word one cannot automatically know how it will be pronounced. The questionnaire (ref:

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table-1) is framed to bring out challenges faced while using English language on daily basis including academic usage in order to make student understand that English language practice is more than fifty percent. Practice through different activities like role plays, GD, JAM, presentations, etc. will help the students in not repeating their mistakes and perform with confidence. Wisdom and familiarity is enhanced only through acquainting self to many exemplar and learning tasks, for this the students must be motivated to read newspapers and personality development books.

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