

SELF-LEARNING THROUGH LANGUAGE LAB FOR IMPROVING WRITING SKILLS TO THE STUDENTS

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ABSTRACT

The English language has occupied an important place in the education system of India. In India English is taught as a foreign and second language. Hence, the main aim of the teaching of English is to help students acquire a practical command of English so that it may be useful to them in everyday life. Practical command of English means that the Indian students should be able to read, speak, write and understand English. They should learn the language for the purpose of utility. Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing (LSRW) are the four skills which play a vital role in the acquisition of language and learning. Writing is one among the expressive skills to be developed in a language. In a literate society, teaching writing is a huge responsibility for the school. Yet, most children develop to be reluctant writers. Whenever a teacher assigns a writing task, a kind of collective sign goes up in the class. Students would rather do anything, except write. There are many reasons for this reluctance and my article will address some of these. Next, I will point out the main pedagogical self-practices in writing classrooms and how these need to be reoriented. I will also discuss the challenges of writing in a second language classroom. In the final section, I make suggestions for enabling students to improve their writing skills through Language Lab.

Key words: English, Language laboratory, writing skills, Students, second language.

IMPORTANCE OF WRITING SKILLS

Before attempting to write anything, the student should be familiar with the reading of that word or structure, and their meaning. When the child is able to recognize learning, then he can be asked to start writing. Writing provides reinforcement for reading and learning. It also provides a change of activity. It could be pursued at home as home works. For most children, the journey of writing begins by memorizing the shapes and sounds of the alphabet. In four-lined notebooks, children practice these over and over again, to form perfect shapes and to keep within the lines. Before this, many children may have enjoyed scribbling and drawing at home. In school, though, such attempts at self-expression have very little value as these experiences do not fall within the conventional understanding of writing. As a result, for most children writing seems like a very mechanical task, devoid of meaning and the pleasure of putting thoughts on paper. A language lab is a place where we can learn languages skills. In English language Lab, we have number of tools which teach and guide us to learn and practice languages skills. Whereas in India, English is a second language. We need to learn the language and since it's also not commonly used outside class rooms, the opportunities to listen, speak and practice are very limited. To improve writing skill in any language one must listen and speak in an order and follow the system of that language. Language labs are becoming highly valued in schools, colleges and universities because they offer students a structured e-learning environment that is successful and reliable. New technologies are progressively introduced in the classrooms, as they facilitate the teacher's role in creating a more attractive learning environment for the student. It also offers, their students additional practice hours and up-to-date exercises than can be found in language books. English Language laboratory has a tradition of serving to learners to enhance their English. The language lab could be a very useful tool that facilitates classroom engagement and interaction via computer-based exercises and activities-to maximize language immersion. These labs give a really totally different expertise from the normal system of teaching and learning languages, offering more advanced features and functionalities. A well-equipped language workplace together with new trends and technology continues to be a necessity for college kids with their comforting and motivating atmosphere. Language labs have become the common ground for all teaching writing and been embraced by many institutions because they are seen as the effective aid for developing writing skills to the students. Several studies on language labs have found that students generally have a positive attitude toward computer technology in the language classroom and such technology has a positive effect on language learning achievement.

NEED FOR LANGUAGE LAB

The language laboratory is a very helpful tool for practicing and assessing one's writing, testing in grammar knowledge, learning at their own pace without teachers. At the same time, it is raising the motivation, reducing the fear and it makes students feel comfortable. In our study, most of the participants agree with the idea that it is very helpful to study English in the language labs. It seems that students suppose the language labs area unit helpful in their language studies. They also want to spend time there. As a result, students have positive perceptions on using language labs in language education. Moreover, Language laboratories give its place to interactive whiteboard technology study English in the language labs. It appears that students think the language labs are beneficial in their language studies. Students have positive perceptions on using language labs in language education. Students' beliefs show that labs should not be abandoned but replaced with well-equipped classrooms with Smart Boards. In apply; every category space is currently turning itself into a form of language labs. It seems that students want to reach the lab facility whenever they want. We need language labs in a modern sense including new trends of the present time. Students have strong mind with idea that language labs should have new technological trends. Students seem to follow cutting-edge technological tools and want to see them in the classroom Environment (Oz, 2014). For example, although the ELT domain haven't discovered yet, Kinect (a kind of game in which the player uses an avatar on the screen by acting in front of a sensor, produced by Microsoft) is very popular among the youth and waits to be discovered and adapted into English language teaching. Institutions are suggested to modernize the labs with new tools and code and stop removing language labs entirely. A well-equipped language lab including new trends and technology is still a need for students with their comforting and motivating atmosphere. However, since youngsters begin their journey with self-expression, logically, even in the schoolroom, the focus should be on meaning and purpose and function. Yet, in school rooms, we have a tendency to still focus totally on the mechanical aspects of writing like spellings, handwriting, and keeping to a straight margin. Furthermore, writing happens in response to a teacher-directed task like writing answers to queries or hundred-word compositions on a subject determined by the teacher. Students know that all such tasks are meant for the purpose of assessment.

CREATING ENVIRONMENT FOR SELF-LEARNING TO THE STUDENTS

Uses of Language lab for an ELT teacher: we cannot think of better educational environment without a better teacher. In earlier times the teacher was the put attentiveness of education, however currently the role of academics has modified a great deal. He is thought-about as a guide and friend of scholars World Health Organization helps in learning, doesn't provide information. To teach higher an instructor got to be update with the changes. For this language lab helps a lot. Lab can be integrating self-learning for students in many ways. Students seldom write for a true purpose to place their thoughts on paper, to share concepts with one another or to create sense of their lives. In reality, children see the adults around them writing for various meaningful purposes such as making lists, filling out a form or texting on the phone. This purpose use of writing is not often extended into the classroom. Self-learning through the use of technology a multimedia computer, good quality headphones, and other study materials along with software support is the basic requirements here. The environment must be quiet one which has no echo. Self-learning has its advantages and limitations too. Developing writing skills and viewing materials to enrich basic vocabulary and grammar, providing a perfect environment for self-analysis, providing privacy of learning for beginners are some the advantages of self-learning. On the other hand, lacking natural versatility and originality, changing interest and aim to technology is some limitations of self-learning. Most of them have inadequate ideas during the writing process. The methods that are generally practiced are ineffective for teaching writing skills. Only when it comes to assessment, written skills have much weight. The way written skills are initiated in classrooms needs a re-look. As Nunan David observes, "Learning to write with clarity is the most difficult of four macro skills for all language users regardless of whether the language in question is a first, second or a foreign language" (2005) How to enable the students to write with clarity? To achieve clarity they should be intrinsically motivated and encouraged to think clearly. Clarity of thinking precedes clarity of writing.

The first step is to assist the learners' generate ideas to write down exploitation group action. Technology is effectively wont to enhance learners' written skills notably, for generating content. If technology is integrated for pre-writing tasks, especially for brainstorming sessions the process will be interactive. Nowadays there is a lot of software in Language lab. However, the challenge lies in selecting the correct one. Chapelle states, "As new technological tools continue to emerge and impact foreign language learning, language teachers and researchers are facing the question of how to best utilize the vast array of technological tools within the language classroom". (2001). through teaching Language lab, ESL students, the form is often considered more important, and independent of the content. For instance, even if the body of the letter does not make sense, as long as the format is correctly reproduced, the student will get some marks. Students are rarely encouraged to look for the lab which fits their functional purpose. Using Language lab allows children to take control of their own learning and acquire the language to talk about their own writing process. They decide what they require to put in writing regarding, work on a draft, discuss it with the teacher or a classmate, edit it for mechanical errors and finally have it published for others' reading. A lot of time is spent on brain-storming for ideas. Children should be allowed to write down concerning what they price if they're to put in writing with a voice. Conferencing with the teacher permits them to specialize in the content and ideas, rather than spellings and grammar. Using language lab enables children to acquire the writing skills to talk about by using language to write. And, as critical theorists, such

as Giroux (1987), have pointed out, this demystifies the process of writing for children and enables them to feel, like writers. However, language workplace will greatly facilitate students to find out a language of their own selections and pace. Previously, the language laboratory appeared as associate audio or audiovisual used as instrumentality in teaching. According to Hocking (1967), by 1962, there was a massive increase in the number of labs at the secondary level since 1958. Most of those were in medium-to-large college districts (Godfrey, 1967). Parker (1960, pp. v-viii) wrote regarding the motivation for language laboratory in conferences. He declared that foreign language academics feel themselves suddenly concerned in a very historic period, suddenly chin-deep in an exceedingly tide of recent demands upon their competencies, and that they get some almost frantically, enlightenment and practical help.

CONCLUSION

English is one in every of the foremost necessary languages that have compete role within the method of economic process and data explosion. It is the foremost common suggests that of communication throughout the world. This is why it's termed as Link language, global language as well as Lingua Franca. In Indian context it's treated as ESL (English as a Second Language). Use of English has become important for higher learning and earning. Therefore, it's necessary to show English and develop English skills among the scholars from faculty level. The government, NGOs and educational institutions are working at various levels and taking measures to ensure better ELT (English Language Teaching) and developing English language skills among the students. To teach English and develop English skills varied approaches and strategies are in use in our country. But most of them are ancient, less interesting, ineffective as well as less motivating. So, it is necessary to use modern approaches and tools of Technology to develop better understanding and acquisition of basic skills i.e. LSRW (Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing) of English language among the students at school level. Using language labs in schools and colleges have always scope for improvement and advancement in language learning. It has to be accomplished with commitment and enthusiasm. Teachers are habituated to the traditional teaching in writing methods. It is high time that their teaching in writing methods have to undergo a change. Unless the new technology is adopted in English language teaching, they cannot impart writing skills in our learners at the rate of growing competition. According to this view, these are a few of the whole of those techniques that can be used to improve writing skills through technology in the present generation. It will be enforced for a learner of any age at any stage. It will be more practical if technology is introduced from the elementary level. Accordingly, Developing writing skills are possible through language lab teaching, as applied for language learning. Writing is usually considered the visual illustration of speech. Some of the more obvious devices are; punctuation marks, paragraphing, use of capital letters or bold letters, underlining, italicizing, use of various types of sentence connectors, e.g., therefore, however, in different words, in short, to start with, finally, etc.,

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