

ENGLISH WRITING SKILLS OF VERNACULAR MEDIUM STUDENTS: A NEED OF SURVEY AT INTERMEDIATE LEVEL IN BHARUCH DISTRICT

Ms. Meera Patel,
Research Scholar
Department of English
Calorx Teachers' University, Ahmedabad, India.

Abstract : This paper focuses on the importance of writing skills. It describes the process of teaching writing. It talks about the quality of writing of the students of Bharuch district at intermediate and advance level. It also proposes the need of a survey to improve writing skills.

IndexTerms - Writing skills, vernacular medium, English, Survey.

I. INTRODUCTION

To acquire mastery over a language one needs to have good grip on four skills i.e. listening, speaking, reading and writing. LSRW sequence is the natural way to get fluent in any language. However, many a times when a language is taught as a second language, the sequence of language acquisition is altered. In Gujarat, English is introduced as a subject in first standard and taught till 12 as a compulsory subject. However, students are not able to write in English accurately & fluently even after learning it till twelve years.

II. PROCESS OF TEACHING WRITING

There are various ways of teaching writing skills as a second language. Mainly it has three approaches:

Product Approach

Product approach focuses mainly on structure and grammar needed for accurate writing. Students & teachers do not give importance to the process involved in writing. Students may also be given points to write hence, they may not get freedom to express themselves.

Process Approach

Process approach contains three stages.

Pre writing

Writing different drafts

Revising & finalizing

Pre writing: This stage includes gathering all the ideas and put it on a piece of page. The writer can also discuss with others about the topic and note the view of everyone. It is more like rough draft of actual writing.

Writing different draft: After gathering all the information, writer arranges all the ideas in sequence to give concrete and comprehensive shape to writing. He/she may take help or suggestions to improve the quality of writing.

Revising & Finalizing: Writer can keep modifying until he/she is satisfied with the final piece of writing. Thus, process approach is about stresses on modifying the drafts for achieving clarity of thoughts in writing.

Genera Approach

In contrary to above two approaches, genera approach refers to writing for specific purpose. There are different genres of writing like narrating, description, instruction, academic etc. In this approach, writer can learn or write in specific genera and ignore other genera which are not useful to him/her.

III. WRITING OF INTERMEDIATE & ADVANCE LEVEL STUDENTS AT BHARUCH DISTRICT

Students are not able to write effectively at advance level. They can't write independently or express their ideas accurately in English at intermediate level. They struggle a lot with language even at advance level of learning. Maximum difficulties are faced when Gujarati medium students opt for technical course which is offered in English only. They can't express themselves in exam as medium of instruction is English.

IV. TEACHING WRITING TO GUJARATI MEDIUM STUDENTS

Teachers in Bharuch district mostly follow product approach of writing. They teach grammar and insists on achieving grammatical accuracy. Even in exam pattern focuses on objective type of writing. Hence students do not become independent writer. They also focus on translating language for communication. Hence, students do not develop their LSRW skills of English language.

V. A NEED FOR SURVEY

When asked about reason of inefficiency of writing in English even at advance level, students replied that this was not taught in school years though English was taught as subject till twelve years. Hence, there is a need to conduct a survey to investigate the level of writing and pedagogy used to teach writing at intermediate level.

VI. CONCLUSION

A survey on writing skills at intermediate level will aid to know the real reason for inefficiency of writing in English effectively. It will help teachers and learners to improve pedagogy & writing skills respectively.

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