

The Importance And Role Teaching Vocabulary At Esp Universities

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ANNOTATION

This article presents the role and importance of mass media and how ESP students can achieve effective vocabulary building. It differs from grammar and phonetic acquisition in that it is a lifetime process. Intrinsic student motivation is essential for effective vocabulary building. Through the mass media, students learn more information. Connection to other disciplines such as TV, radio, newspaper, and internet broadens opportunity of learning English and leads to implement it for ESP students to enhance their language skills.

Key words: skills, vocabulary, syntax, phonology, context, low-frequency, spelling.

АННОТАЦИЯ

В статье показывается роль и важность СМИ и как студенты других факультетов (второй язык) смогут достичь эффективный вокабуляр. Это отличается от грамматического и фонетического получения тем, что это жизненный процесс. Мотивация, свойственная студентам очень необходимо для эффективного строения вокабуляра. Через СМИ студенты получают больше информации. Связь с другими дисциплинами, как ТВ, радио, газеты и интернет расширяют возможности изучать английский и ведет к выполнению этого для студентов второго языка чтобы улучшить языковые навыки. **Ключевые слова:** навыки, словарный запас, синтаксис, фонология, контекст, низкочастотность, орфография.

English language is one of the languages in the world used by many people in many Universities. Studying a language cannot be separated from studying vocabulary because the knowledge of vocabulary is one of the important parts in achieving skills of any language and understanding it. Students need ,in communication, vocabulary which can help them to produce meaningful sentences and for that reason they have to develop their vocabulary knowledge and master it in order to be able to communicate with others. The more vocabulary students learn the more ideas they should have, so they can communicate by using their thoughts more effectively. Many studies have been achieved on syntax and phonology, as well as recently much more importance has been given to lexis, this is why we have chosen it as a field of interest. Learning a language goes hand in hand with knowing its vocabulary and its words because words are the building blocks of any language and the units of meaning from which sentences, paragraphs and whole texts are formed . The place of vocabulary learning English as a foreign language includes also some hints concerning types of vocabulary, steps of teaching and learning vocabulary and some techniques used by the teacher and learner to improve the learners' vocabulary knowledge. Vocabulary learning is an essential part in foreign language learning . Any language requires knowing its vocabulary which is defined in Oxford dictionary as "*the total number of words that make up a language*". The word vocabulary entered the means : "a list of words" What Are the Different Types of Vocabulary? Many authors have similar definitions about vocabulary. For example according to Hubbard vocabulary can be defined as a powerful carrier of meaning[1]. Additionally, Siriwan suggested: "*Vocabulary learning is referred to as learning a collection or the total stock of words in a language that are used in particular contexts*"[2]. It means that without establishing a strong vocabulary base first, comprehension and use of a language will not be achieved. Some authors suggest more complex definitions about

vocabulary . Nation states that vocabulary knowledge implies knowing a word in the spoken form of the word and the spoken form can be recognized and understood it in and out of context rather than guessed. Such as, Hatch and Brown consider vocabulary as a list of words for a particular language or a set of words that an individual speaker of a language might use. Moreover , when we have a meaning or concept that we want to express, we need to have a store of words from which we can select to express this meaning or concept. “When students travel, they don’t carry grammar books, they carry dictionaries” [3]. Vocabulary is one of the most important, if not the most important, components in learning a foreign language and it is the first step to be taught before teaching other aspects of language. Vocabulary is very essential in conveying messages, and grammar is not sufficient in learning any language. If students spend most of our time studying grammar, our English will not improve very much. Teachers will see most improvement if students learn more words and expressions. It means that learners cannot improve better if they only spend lots of time for learning grammar. Students can improve their English if they focus more in words and expressions. In other words , they can see what others say by looking the grammar, but they almost can speak everything using words. In short, vocabulary has an important role in teaching learning process.

According to Scrivener in classroom there are five roles of vocabulary, which are:

1. Vocabulary is very important and needs to be dealt with systematically in its own right, it is not simply an add-on to grammar or skills lessons.
- 2.Learner need to distinguish between vocabulary for productive use and for receptive recognition.
3. The learner will be difficult to finish the work, if they have first met some new vocabulary.
4. We need to deal not only with single word lexical items. But also with longer, multi word items.

5. Training in the use of English-English dictionaries provides learners with a vital tool for self- study.

Vocabulary lists can be a tool which used to make the teaching learning process easier for the teacher and learner. High frequency vocabulary is taught through vocabulary exercise or individual learning because this type of vocabulary includes few numbers of frequent words. However, in low-frequency words there are words that do not deserve the teachers' attention. They are rather guessed from the context. There are several ways or general principles for dealing with high and low frequency vocabulary. They can be put into practice directly or indirectly. Both of these approaches require reflection and planning on the part of the teacher. In a direct approach to vocabulary teaching there will certainly be explicit vocabulary exercises However , In an indirect approach to vocabulary teaching, the teachers' concern for vocabulary learning will not be so explicit. Vocabulary lists can be a tool which used to make the teaching learning process easier for the teacher and learner. High frequency vocabulary is taught through vocabulary exercise or individual learning because this type of vocabulary includes few numbers of frequent words. However, in low-frequency words there are words that do not deserve the teachers' attention. They are rather guessed from the context . There are several ways or general principles for dealing with high and low frequency vocabulary. They can be put into practice directly or indirectly. Both of these approaches require reflection and planning on the part of the teacher. In a direct approach to vocabulary teaching there will certainly be explicit vocabulary exercises However , In an indirect approach to vocabulary teaching, the teachers' concern for vocabulary learning will not be so explicit.

Techniques of Teaching Vocabulary.Whenever student start learning a new language and try to use it , they should learn vocabulary. However, studying a specific language causes some problems, because many students consider learning vocabulary as a boring activity. Teacher should keep looking for ways to make

learning vocabulary easier and more pleasant. Teaching techniques is the teachers' task to use appropriate techniques of vocabulary teaching in order to motivate and help the students in learning process. These techniques are very important in teaching learning process and according to Campillo [4], it's divided into three main types : visual techniques , verbal techniques , and translation.

1) Visual techniques : In teaching the meaning of words , we have to establish a link between the word and its meaning and the visual presentation of a word includes using different tools such as : paper of song lyrics, pictures ,drawings, flashcards.

2) Verbal techniques : There are other techniques which can be used to present vocabulary by giving examples, using illustrative situations to explain abstract word providing definitions, synonym and opposites.

3) Translation[5].

EFL learners find different difficulties in learning and they see that the use of native language can be a facilitator .In order to familiarize learners with L2 words, the teacher can use translation in the classroom. Using this technique can be helpful in conveying meanings .It saves time , allows us to check correct comprehension. It can be concluded that translation is a good technique. However, teachers need to look for other techniques to be used as alternatives. *For example*, they can sometimes use visual presentation in addition to or instead of using translation[6].

Problems in teaching and learning vocabulary Learning vocabulary is not an easy task. There are many problems occurring in learning vocabulary faced by the student. The difficulty of vocabulary items depends on a number of factors. Which are:

a. Similarity to L1 : The difficulty of vocabulary items often depends on how a similar item is in form and meaning to the students' first language.

b. Similarity to English words already known: Once the students have some English words that relate to an English word that they are already familiar which is easier than one, which is not. *For example*, if students have already met the word *conscious*, they should be able to guess the meaning of *unconscious*.

c. Connotation : Connotation of the word is another difficult aspect that the learners have to take into consideration. *For example*, either *skinny* or *slim* could be used to describe someone who is thin. But these two words have very different in their connotation and by choosing one of them however; the speaker actually conveys a particular attitude. *Skinny* is negative connotation, while *slim* is positive connotation.

d. Spelling and pronunciation : The spelling of English word can cause problems for EFL learners. Particular spelling patterns can also cause confusion where the pronunciation concerned. *For example:* Tough, Dough, through

e. Multi- word items : A lexical item may consist of more than one word, as in a compound like *babysitter*, or *supermarket* or a phrasal verb such as *to break something in*. **f. Collocation:** lexical item collocation can also causes difficulty. For example we say that persons injured or but things are damaged[7].

Improving students' Vocabulary limited vocabulary prevents the learners from expressing their thoughts and ideas , whereas, a strong vocabulary gives them the right words to use at the right time. In order to improve the students' vocabulary, there are efficient ways which are:

a. Be aware of words : Many students with poor vocabularies do not pay attention to the words around them. The first step to improve vocabulary is start paying attention of the word.

b. Reading :Reading is an essential way which can help learners to find new and interesting words. Like reading : magazines, books and newspapers. Identify the words that you don't know and write them down.

c. Use dictionaries :Using the dictionaries is helpful to look up the meaning of the words that you find while reading.” The dictionary is filled with information about words and the use of words” . It can be a basic reference tool when the learner using words in doing the task.

d. Use index cards to study :Students should write the new word on an index card. Then write the definition and a sentence using the word on the back of the card. This card should be always with the students wherever they go.

e. Review vocabulary words regularly: Keep the index cards, and study them although just a few minutes. The words that have written in index card must be always present everywhere. So the learner can read the words[8].

f. Try vocabulary–building books:Some students have great success with vocabulary-building books or website. These can be an excellent help if the learner enjoy doing the exercise[9].

In short, what the definitions above about vocabulary have in common is the fact that vocabulary knowledge requires not only word meanings knowledge, but it requires also the use of the words in the appropriate context and in a natural way and also includes the relationship between new words acquired and the ones already acquired.

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