

Role of Newspaper in English Language Learning

Dr. Reena Mittal

M.A. (Eng.), Ph.D., M.B.A, Reader and Head, Department of English,

DAK Degree College, Moradabad, UP, India

Email Id.:- mittal.reena23@gmail.com

Abstract:-

English language has become an indispensable part of modern life. So, are Newspapers. Normally we start our day with newspapers and its headlines. So, why not to make this integral part of life, our cup of learning in an easier way. The paper focuses on different aspects, benefits and innovative uses of Newspaper reading which will help in learning English language. Also, some activities and exercises are suggested which can be introduced in class room for Effective English learning in an interactive way. These activities will not only teach them but will erase their shortcomings in a humanistic way.

Keywords Information, Up gradation, Vocabulary, Innovative, Tool.

Introduction

Learning another language apart from the mother tongue has always been important and challenging for natives and non-natives. Language gives one exposure to know culture, trade prospects, religion, traditions and social and economic life. English is a widely spoken language far and wide. It is considered Global language because largest number of people are speaking English in the world across the borders. Earlier English in India only offered two best opportunities: one Teaching and other is Civil Services. But in present scenario, every new job opportunity opens with the knowledge and exposure of English. There are various suggestions and experimental readings which are always welcome for the up gradation of English teaching. As English has been considered a major foreign language in India, so, there are many functions and innovative practices

which need to be introduced in English reading and teaching as we as teachers notice that students pass their examinations by cramming their syllabus but unable to speak or write even simple constructions.

Newspapers and their usefulness

Newspapers are one of the most powerful sources of sharing information and up gradation of knowledge bank. They cover a wide range of information and students can get a lot of practical wisdom in pretty less time. They are most reliable, affordable and easily available and accessible source of information and knowledge. People start their day with Newspapers as they give piece of knowledge since the beginning of the day. For effective English Learning, newspaper can work as a major tool. There are numerous activities that can be done with newspapers for EET. Students want innovations and new ways of learning and newspapers always give them teaching in innovative way, as they change thought, topic and ingredients daily. Students read them curiously and learn without many efforts.

Use of English Newspapers

The use of English newspapers in the classroom in regular basis will inculcate many good ideas and habit of grasping vocabulary spontaneously. Students read newspaper for the sake of information but they learn a lot even without much efforts. Some major uses are:

- Learning a lot of Vocabulary.
- Increase in Reading speed.
- Process of learning becomes innovative and interesting
- Offers a wide variety of information in every walk of life.
- Cost Savvy
- Develop writing and listening skills.
- Learning grammatical structures.
- Learning Crafty words and constructions.
- Use of Idioms, Phrases and many new innovative constructions.

Role of Newspapers in Students Life

Teaching English to a non-native English speakers in somewhat challenging as it take a lot of time in understanding students learn or cram

their syllabus and pass their examination but they fail in speaking, reading and writing and I think Newspapers can be vital in all their talents as they play an important role in this regard.

- It opens many new ways of discussion and conversation in classroom.
- Can discuss innumerable aspects of newspapers daily and can do a creative writing section on the spot every day.
- Working of a newspaper can give many new ideas and openings
- A lot of Job opportunities can be found through 'Classified' section.
- Daily discussion of 'Headlines' give a lot of knowledge and exposure.
- Games as 'Treasure Hint' from Newspaper can give vital information in pairs and increase feeling of sharing and team work.
- Can learn Photography and interest in the use of Camera.
- Writing of Articles will increase their knowledge of Grammar and creativity.

The newspapers reading can be introduced to any level from beginning to large lines to reading till end. In the beginning they will understand large lines then body of the news and after words Editorial and Articles. This will give them not only understanding of the language but their creativity will be at best and they will try their level best to write.

Developing Habit of Newspaper reading

A daily reading of English newspaper will be a world of quality learning for students. It will bring a great understanding of the subject. In India, normally teacher's avoid this kind of creativity but it is imperative as it will give many positive results as in India we are facing problems of Reading, writing and speaking some major points to ponder of developing habit of using newspapers are:-

- Motivation is the most important factor teachers should ponder amongst students .
- Encourage them to use library for this work if English Newspapers are not available in their homes.

- Help them for Reading as it is a good way of learning language.
- Ask them to use Dictionary for better understanding of Vocabulary.
- Encourage them to write important things in their own way.
- Ask them to divide Newspapers in many sections as:-
 - a) Headlines
 - b) Stories of events and situation
 - c) Special Features
 - d) Editorial
 - e) Classifieds
 - f) Other useful informations
- They should emphasise on them as per their interest, knowledge and area in which they want to brush up till perfection.
- Reading aloud any particular news in classroom one by one.
- Writing any given news in your own way.
- Writing news just by changing tense, meaning or omitting particular word.
- Asking students to read any particular news and reproduce it verbally and then write it in your own way.
- Group Discussion on current Issues.

These activities are based on practical exposure which I personally did amongst group of 100 students dividing them in the group of 10 each. This makes them learn and reproduce it in their own way. Sometimes situation becomes funny and laughable but a good teacher should always encourage and motivate students. Those students who are good in speaking should be given the task of expressing news in their own words and those who can write they may be given writing tasks. Some advantages which can be observed by my personal Experience are:-

- Daily's new words from daily Newspaper will give them a room for daily reading of paper.
- Enrichment of Vocabulary
- Increase in General Knowledge

Activities to be introduced in the class room

Teachers can introduce many activities in the class room such as:-

- Improvement in Reading Ability
- Improvement in writing
- Increase in worldly wisdom, external affairs and International exposure.
- Knowledge Grammar, correct use of words, Tenses and other things.
- Up gradation of language.

Conclusion

In the modern world, ELT has become very innovative and progressive as we have introduced technology and electronic devices in ELL. Use of Newspaper is also imperative and successful mode of teaching. It works as helping tool as it teaches innovatively as well as interactively. A teacher can make even his lessons or lectures interactive as well as use his wisdom for planning his syllabus teaching. Scholars work or plan on innovation in classroom teaching. Hence, newspaper are really an effective tool of teaching as it contains a science and methodology behind it, student should be given a proper training of using newspaper in such a manner that they can avail the

best information, knowledge, wisdom and skill of English language.

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