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PROBLEMS AND REMEDIES IN LEARNING ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

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ABSTRACT

English, being a global language, happens to be the language of literature, language of science and technology, language of social media and the language of every means of communication. In spite of English being a universal language used in every field lots of people especially the students find it difficult to imbibe the language. There are certain factors like pronunciation, vocabulary, spelling and grammar that makes English a difficult language. This paper tries to focus on the difficulties in learning English and various ways to overcome the difficulties.

Key words: Socio-economic, grammar, self-learning.

Introduction

English language plays a pivotal role as a Second Language and serves as an instrument for various opportunities that awaits the young people. We should know the importance of Second Language acquisition in the present scenario. English has its influence in all fields like education, medicine, technology and in business. The learners should show interest and involvement to learn English.

English as second language acquisition is a complex process that develops over a period. It varies with each individual student and is contingent on many factors that can affect the process. Since language depends largely on the context in which it takes place and acquired in varying degrees of proficiency, it is useful to examine the various factors that affect it as they relate to the individual student's learning and academic growth. Some typical examples of these factors include self-confident students taking risks with learning, getting more opportunities to build language skills, and not easily discouraged by errors.

Literacy in a student's first language facilitates the transfer of skills to a second language. A student who is not literate in his or her first language may require additional time to develop basic literacy skills. Additionally, a different writing system may cause students difficulty with reading, writing, and spelling in a second language. Students who are successful in the learning environment or those who are encouraged to succeed are usually motivated to learn.

Learning a language is a complex process of which the development of grammar is only one part. Other social and psychological factors are important in understanding the processes of language acquisition. Research has shown that the learner's use and development of English is not restricted to the development of grammatical structures and vocabulary but also includes the development of communicative aspects such as attracting and sustaining attention, managing interactions in groups and with different speakers and the development of positive attitudes towards themselves as learners. In developing a framework for monitoring the progress of young learners of English as a Second Language, it is essential to include social aspects of learning rather than concentrating on the development of morphology and syntax. Students who fear failure and the lack of social acceptance may experience anxiety that interferes with their learning. Differentiated

instructional programs that incorporate a variety of strategies designed to reach individual students' various learning styles and provide a rich language environment offer the best chance of success for second language learners.

The students are accustomed to reading and writing that listening and the process of speaking in English is ignored. The students should be trained for all the four skills of language namely, listening, speaking, reading and writing. Listening is the first process of learning and speaking a language. So, excessive listening must be done to develop communication.

Teachers should tell the students about the importance of English language in their lives and assist them in attaining the four skills. Teachers make the students speak rather than they themselves engage in speaking or teaching. The students are able to participate in various activities like presentations, group Discussion, Role Plays, etc to develop their communication with the help of teachers.

Grammar should be taught in the form of application in day-to-day life. Since there is a lot of exposure to communicate in first language, it does not require learning the grammar of first language. But, this is not in the case of English which is a second language. It is important to learn grammar rules of a second language for getting confidence of speaking and performing the best.

Language Laboratory is a very advanced aid to the teaching of English. It provides soundproof cubicles for each student so that each one can practice without disturbing others. Students can learn and practice at their own pace. The learner has to make constant practice and receive training for all the four skills. When there is a coordination of these four skills then the learner with ease can learn the second language and master it. Students should be motivated to learn by the process of self-learning. They must make use of the English newspapers, new channels, magazines etc. as a source in acquiring competence over the language.

Literature also plays an important role in enhancing the second language acquisition. Literature increases all the language skills through linguistic knowledge through extensive and subtle use of vocabulary, complex and exact syntax. It is a link through culture, which retains the expression of a language. It also guides a student towards his creativity.

The students to acquire English Language have to give up shyness, inhibition and they should have inspiration, motivation and proper guidance form teachers to acquire the skills. They should be trained for all the four essential skills, which will enable them to come into light with their mastery of their second language.

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