

INFLUENCE OF NATIVE LANGUAGE ON STUDENTS IN LEARNING SECOND LANGUAGE

Ms. Sameera. V

Research Scholar, Department of English, KLEF, India
Assistant Professor, AGBS
Hyderabad

Dr. M. Latha

Associate Professor, Department of English, KLEF, India

Abstract

This paper gives a clear picture of the issues faced by the students while learning Foreign language. Students will not take much time to learn their native language when compares with non-native language. They are not in a situation to comprehend the difference between this Native and Non-Native languages. There are many reasons to discuss the influence of native language on students in learning second language. In those the first and foremost one is translating language from native to non-native. Students from primary to graduation will do the same to learn this language. They are in that impression that this is the only way to learn Foreign language. When we take this Foreign language as target language it is important to a learner to learn this language in an effective way. There are different methods help a learner to learn his/her target language. In this paper will discuss these methods in a detailed way. Students who's medium is their mother tongue they will face many problems in learning this target language. It is very important to learn this language to a student to enter into this competitive world. One of the reasons for this is, a student cannot face an interview in his/her mother tongue. Enhancing employability skills are also very important in their professional environment. Vocabulary also plays an important role here. Increasing proficiency in his/her target language is also very important for this, he/she should inculcate a phenomenon of adopting second language learning process. Proficiency on first language is also helps a student to know better about the second language.

Key Words: Native language, Target Language, Foreign Language, Vocabulary, Medium, Proficiency.

Introduction

It is a known thing that English is an international language and every student will have a zeal to learn this language. Either to compete with others or to learn to improve their proficiency. Actually, it is considered as the most commonly used language in all subjects. Most of the students will be in the impression that it is a Native language but, actual fact is that it is a non-native language. We are non-native speakers of this English. Language acts as a medium it is like a bridge between two or more in the process of communication. If a person wants to be an effective communicator, he/she should focus on language first. Both Vocabulary and Grammar plays a major role in learning this language. It is important to a student to comprehend what he/she is learning and what he/she is applying. Learning rules in their native language and applying them in Foreign language is not an acceptable thing. Indeed, the rules can be taught by a teacher, practiced and improved by a student. This makes a big difference in a student while learning the non-native language without any influence of the native language. Native language also influences on pronunciation. Pronouncing the sounds properly in Foreign language should be learnt properly by a student.

Problems faced by the students to learn Target Language:

Students should not create an impression that learning target language is so easy when they have a good knowledge of their mother tongue. There are many issues faced by the students to learn their target language, in those one of the most important one is influence of mother tongue while learning target language. And other reasons like lack of exposure, poor in grammar, pronunciation, etc... Actually, most of the students faced these because of their medium and they are not getting chance to adopt the language in such a way they can improve vocabulary, grammar and pronunciation. Most of them will be thrown in a situation that at a stretch they should learn many things after their schooling. And they will be getting confused in such a way how to cope up with the situation and adopt a wrong way of learning his/her Target language.

Fear of learning language:

“Courage is resistance of fear, mastery of fear – not absence of fear.”–Mark Twain

Most of the students won't be in a situation to know or to explore new things in the target language because of their incompetence and fear of learning a new language but, they will have a small desire of learning their target language. And the other reason for this is the

traditional classrooms which never give them such chance to explore. Here, in traditional classrooms a student tends to be a passive learner and the teacher won't give a chance to them to think. There won't be any chance of asking doubt also. So, they will be habituated with those situations and stick to an opinion that not to explore themselves related to Target language learning. Primary to graduation students who's medium is their mother tongue start inculcating a habit of translating the target language from their mother tongue. It is very important to a student to understand that the translation of mother tongue to target language is not a proper way of using or learning. The rules of target language and the non-native language are different and difficult to adopt. Because of different vocabulary, grammar and pronunciation.

Lack of Basic Knowledge: Another most important problem in students is lack of basic knowledge of native language because of their medium of learning. Not only that most of the students are from rural background and who's knowledge is not up to the mark is facing problems. Pronunciation which takes an important place while learning the Foreign language won't help a student when he/she tries to translate the native language to non-native language. Pronouncing few sounds are completely different from native to non-native languages. Linguistics is a vast subject and is very difficult to a student when he/she tries to translate it. A deeper knowledge on vocabulary is needed. Grammar rules need to be learnt. Most of the students from Primary level itself should inculcate a habit of exploring vocabulary to reach a different level in knowledge and skills. They should overcome that fear of learning language. And learn it in enthusiastic way.

Methods to adopt in learning target language:

In olden times students learnt language as passive learners. Teachers help them in learning language using Grammar translation method. Using Native language and translate the rules into Foreign language is one of the methods to learn this Target language. Here teacher used both the languages while teaching. Habituate teaching in both languages which makes the students thrown in a big ocean of language and he/she was not be in a situation to come out from it. It is a big drawback to student while learning language. Language labs are very much needed to the students to learn pronunciation in a proper way. Native language influence while producing few sounds like /r/ example pronunciation of /r/ in perfect, paper and other

words produced by the students in a wrong way, as they do not know the transcription of those words.

Virtual Teaching:

Virtual teaching also helps them in learning language in virtual way which gives a student a better understanding on foreign language. More exposure on language from basic level of a student is needed. It is also important to a student to understand the importance of learning this language without any interference of his/her mother tongue. Audio-visual aids also help the students to learn non-native language in a perfect way. They will overcome their fear of learning this language. Sometimes students feel shy to converse with the people as they don't have a proper knowledge on language. Using PPT s, different videos related to mother tongue influence, Computer aided language labs, all these help a student to learn. Vigorous practice of vocabulary is also needed. This method even helps the facilitator to approach a student in a proper way and also helps them to guide them in perfect way.

By guiding the students in right path:

Teachers part is also very important here. Teacher should guide them in a proper way so, that they can explore themselves in the process of learning foreign language. The teaching of English from fundamentals is different from teaching English using native language. It is therefore, teaching language by using different simple methods which are effective and helpful. proposed that teachers English as a second language, no matter where they teach, and should follow some easy teaching methods to avoid possible language problems and to exclude the possibilities of language barrier. It is important to a facilitator to understands students' level and should use those methods. Teacher should adopt Audio Lingual method where teacher focus on listening and speaking. It is a mechanical method where student practice using drilling and memorization methods.

Main Principles of learning Language:

Student should understand that language is just a medium through which one can express one's ideas, thoughts and feelings.

- Aims of learning Foreign language
- Ability to understand the speaker's language.
- Ability to read along with understanding.

- Development of creating skills.
- Ability to understand the proper pronunciation of each sounds.

Principle of exercise:

Drilling plays an important role in language learning. Any learning if it is continuously repeated gets imprinted in their minds.

Principle of Student-centered method:

It is important of making students-centered class rooms to give proper knowledge to them. Student should feel the language familiar environment so that they could get more opportunities to listen and speak. Motivation is another important aspect in language learning particularly in second language. English resources and text books should be taken into consideration. In language learning speaking, listening, reading, writing and correct pronunciation is also needed.

Oral Practice method:

Oral Practice method emphasizes on oral practice. Application of grammar is more. Students main focus will be on Target Language. Student role will be active. Student can correct himself/herself. Mostly tools will be used to make the teaching learning in a formal way. Activity based teaching also helps a student to learn language in a proper way.

Conclusion:

- Developing positive attitude towards the language is needed
- Concentrate more on accurate learning of language.
- Applying methods in a proper way to learn the language in an effective way.
- Development of a great level of competence without any incompetence.
- A proper way of pronouncing sounds with a good knowledge on them.
- A good explore of vocabulary and vigorous practice of words needed.

References:

- [1] M.L. Tickoo :Teaching and Learning English : Orient Blackswan,Paperback,2003
- [2] Approaches and Methods in Language Teaching By Jack C. Richards, Jack Croft Richards, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge,2001.

- [3] **Ashraf Rizvi. Effective Technical Communication, Tata McGraw-Hill Education, 2005**
- [4] Hanumanthrao, C.R. (2011) Teaching English Language: Problems and Remedies.
- [5] Bolinger, Dwight. (1968). Aspects of language. New York: Harcourt, Brace & World Inc.
- [6] Bose, M.N.K. (2007). A text book of English language and teaching (ELT) for Indian students (2 ed.). Chennai: NewCentury Book House.
- [7] Abu-Rabia, S., & Siegel, L. S. (2002). Reading, syntactic, orthographic, and working memory skills of bilingual Arab-English speaking Canadian children. *Journal of Psycholinguistic Research*, 31, 661-678
- [8] Dornyei, Z. (2001). *Teaching and researching motivation*. Harlow: Longman.
- [9] Dulay, H., Burt, M., & Krashen, S. (1982). *Language Two*, Oxford University Press, New York. Ellis, R. (1997). *Second Language Acquisition*. Oxford University Press, Oxford.
- [10] Jalaluddin, NorHashimah & et al. (2009). "Linguistics and environment in English language learning: Towards the development of quality human capital". *European Journal of Social Sciences*, 9(4), 627-642, from jccc@infonet.in, retrieved on March 3, 2011. [4]
- [11] James, Cherian. (1996). "An analysis of selected problems that confront students and teachers of second language". *Dissertation Abstracts International*, 57(9), 3857-A.
- [12] Nunan, D. (2003). The impact of English as a global language on educational policies and practices in the Asia-Pacific region. *TESOL Quarterly*, 37 (4), 589-613.