

Importance of English grammar for professional courses

ABSTRACT:

Grammar lays the ground work for effective communication. Usage of correct grammar while we write or speak is important to avoid misunderstandings and to help others to understand easily. If our English is full of mistakes, we slow down our conversation and find it harder to express our ideas and thoughts clearly and concisely. As the world today has become a Global Village with English as a primary language, the demand for English in different spheres of life is increasing. In communication, English plays a key role. At present English occupies the position of commercial language and also important in professional courses connecting the East to the West and the South to the North. English is the language of every latest business in the world.

With the rapid advancements in technology, English has not only increasing employment, but has also helping a lot in communication. A good knowledge of English allowing to communicate effectively with international clients helping them to trust us and our organization resulting in strong and lasting business relationships. So, in this paper, I would like to predict the importance of English Grammar for Professional Courses.

Key words: Ground work, misunderstanding, conversation, internal clients, professional courses etc.

I. INTRODUCTION:

Communication is the life blood of social as well as corporate world. We exist because we communicate. The ever growing need for good communication skills in English has created a huge demand for teaching and learning quality English around the world. Today's Corporate is troubled by untrained manpower and attrition for which reason again is a lack of communication skills. In the current scenario whether an individual is an Engineer, a graduate or undergraduate everybody needs to communicate in English somewhere. But they fall short as they are lacking in English language. Such is feedback from corporate and alarming reports of unemployable Indian graduates come as an eye opener for both the students and the Business Schools. It is a vehicle that gives you more advantage to work with people from different states & nations. It is a "lingua franca" – a link language. No other language has the same clout of becoming a link language. It is English language which makes a man very dominant to sustain him in the corporate world. Now a day in India its significance is amplified. Being vast country with various languages in different parts of the country it is difficult to communicate with people of other region with our common language.

As we all know it is an international language along with this it is an official language in the world. It is a primary language of global trade & commerce used in international affairs. We are living in the digital age where we have to make the software's, deal with various technologies & Internet. All over the world the language which is used is only English. So English is the language of latest version applications and programs and new era where, shoreward, peer to peer, social media networks and all websites, all the software instruction booklets, installation guides and product fact sheets of populate consumer electronics and entertainment devices usually are available in English first before having made available in other languages. English is used to procure higher learning. All the students who go abroad for higher education whether it is medical, business schools or advanced studies their medium of instruction is English. All the Universities and colleges in Australia, The United States, Canada, Great Britain, New Zealand and Singapore which are centre of attraction for higher studies for International students they teach only in English. All the journals, periodicals and reports that inspire today's scientists, engineers, technologist and technocrats are published in English.

II. IMPORTANCE OF ENGLISH COMMUNICATION FOR ENGINEERING STUDENTS:

Engineering is the biggest field of study in the world. First of all English is a tool that significantly affect engineering students in academic life. While most of the theories in engineering are taught in English, it requires having good English communication competence. In academic life, engineering students have to deal with the countless English lectures, tutorials, labs, project reports and papers. Most engineering professors in various universities are also conducting lectures in English. The most

convenient source of information i.e. Internet provides most of the information in English. During the job seeking process in interviews, GD's, it is but of crucial importance to achieve mastery in English proficiency. After securing the job they are required to work in groups since their task seldom be solved by an individual. So, being an engineer one requires to co-operate and communicate with different people from different part of the world. English is used as the working language on large extent. In order to co-ordinate with the colleagues; engineers have to speak fluent English. So, English communication competence plays an important role in the academic life and career of engineering students.



II. INTERNATIONAL STATUS

Speaking English fluently is an important criterion of the admission process and a candidate's ability to master this ability brightens their chances of admissions to foreign Universities. In National University of Singapore, students are required to pass Qualifying English Test to assess their proficiency of English language. To a certain level where students are not able to qualify, there is a inevitability for them to go for extra English module to brush up their English. Such measurements are carried out to make sure the students are able to write, listen, and communicate with proficient English in future.

III. NATIONAL STATUS

English language is the most important function of a student being performed in his/her life social life. English language helps to build strong relationship and better understanding which are so vital in their personal and professional life. To be victorious in any field one need to know and understand how to communicate effectively. In the era of LPG (Liberalization, Privatization and Globalization), good communication expertise are the keys to unlock the doors of success.

III. PROBLEMS FACED BY ENGINEERING STUDENT FROM THE RURAL AREAS:

In our country, about 75% students of the engineering are from rural areas and most of them are coming through regional language medium schools. No doubt that as they have entered into the engineering colleges, they do possess intelligence i.e. necessary qualification for higher education and bright future. But, at every walk of life and career English becomes an obstacle in their way of career. So, let us examine the reasons which make English as a souring grape for rural students even today in this modern era.

3.1 SOCIO ECONOMIC BACKGROUND OF FAMILY:

Classroom contains students from different strata of the society who possess different grasping power and English communication competence. It is found that the English communication competence of the students whose parents are literate belongs to higher middle class is better than that of the students whose parents are illiterate and belong to lower middle class. The fact for this situation is the literate parents can provide more exposure to their child to English as they are aware of the importance of English competence. They consult the teacher about child's progress and guide him/her at home to perform better. Infact it never happens with the second group as they lack parental supervision and guidance from to the higher education

3.2 LACK OF SKILLFUL TEACHERS:

The other important factor is the education system and lack of skill full teachers. Most of the teachers at all the learning levels are untrained they are unaware of the current trends and advanced techniques of English Language teaching (ELT).The condition is same with the regional medium as well as the English medium primary ,secondary and higher secondary schools in rural or semi urban area. Again teaching –learning process is much exam result oriented. And the exams do test the memory power alone. Even the parents are craving for the marks than skills or knowledge. So, teachers make students to habituate by heart method, as a result, English seems to be a dreadful demon for the students. This fright remains in the mind till higher education because of lack of proper guidance. Again these exam oriented students give prior importance to their technical subjects than to the communication competence.

3.3 EDUCATION SYSTEM:

The other important factor is the traditional education system which affects English language learning and acquisition. Basically it requires four skills i.e. Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing.(LSRW).Our students are being trained in reading and writing for long ages and listening and speaking skills are neglected and ignored which are very important. Learning is the one basic skill which makes speaking possible. Learning language is possible only through active listening. As an illustration we can take an example of language acquisition by a baby. It starts speaking the words which it listens frequently. Our education neglects the importance of listening which results in lack of skill of speaking. Lack of modern and advanced technology in the process of language learning also affects the language acquisition. E.g. use of computers and internet, power point presentation, OHP etc.

3.4 CONTROVERSY UPON LEARNING GRAMMAR OF ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE:

There is a much controversy upon learning English as a second language. Researchers ask a question that had we learnt grammar of our mother tongue when we learnt it. So, grammar is learnt only for the sake of getting marks and not as a tool for learning a language. Again the application of grammar in day to day life is being neglected.

3.5 LACK OF EXPOSURE TO THE ENGLISH COMMUNICATION:

The rural area student lacks the exposure to the English communication in the family, society as well as in the colleges. As a result of this even the merituos gold medallist fail to achieve success during personal interviews due to lack of communication skills, soft skills, interpersonal skills and personality development. During academics also lack of confidence of being unable to communicate in English leads to feeling of inferiority complex, as a result students keep themselves lonely and isolated.

IV. REMEDIES:

Knowing the importance and growing demand of English communication competence for engineering students from rural areas, there a need for the teachers as well the students to make integrated efforts. 1. Faculty is expected to fulfil their assigned responsibilities. But apart from that they should think it as their moral responsibility to take more efforts to provide more exposure to English language for students as to achieve communication competence. The students when forced to learn communication on their own, they find it as a herculean task. So, they expect assistance and warmth understanding from teachers. Now days a comprehensive course which focus on both writing and speaking skills is introduced in most of the universities in Maharashtra. So, during the interactive sessions the students should be encouraged and helped to talk .So, that the students can built an ability to participate in various activities such as paper presentations, GD's, mock interviews, role plays etc. to develop English communication competence. It is necessary that Students Talk Time (STT) should be higher than Teacher Talk Time (TTT). 2. Students from the secondary and higher secondary level should be given dictionary of technical words with their meanings in regional

language for use. The technical teachers should help students in understanding the technical words in English and their equivalents in regional languages. Again they should help the students to understand the meanings of long and complicated sentences in technical subjects. 3. Grammar should be taught in the form of application of it in day to day life. When we learnt first language, it requires a lot of time. We get a lot of exposure to its communication deals takes place in the regional language. So, it is natural that it does not require learning the grammar of regional language. Unfortunately it does not happen with English which is a second language. From the experience, it is essential to learn grammar of English as second language for getting confidence of speaking and performing the best in all walks of life. 4. In this modern era, new trends and methods of teaching are emerging in the learning of the English language competence which involves the use of Computer assisted language learning (CALL) in the Language Labs. Most of the students are tired of the traditional way of teaching and are more interested in doing exercises on a computer than by hand. This system works more effectively when the ratio of computer and student is 1:1 CALL mostly includes: 4.1 Use of Audio /video clips. 4.2 Interlingua method-Listen and see clippings in regional language and English. 4.3 Language Learning-vocabulary-synonyms and antonyms. 4.4 Etymology reading. 4.5 Grammar. 4.6 Role plays-Speaking task. 4.7 Translation. 4.8 Fluency Task. By this method of learning students are provided a lot of practice and exposure to the English language. This method leads to individualization of learning, where teacher's acts as mentor, trainer and aspirant to facilitate learning. The teachers should be aware of the latest technologies, explore new ideas and have certain amount of specialization in the subject. Refresher courses for these teachers at national level can help in achieving proficiency in use of CALL. 5. Students on their own should make use of English journals, television programs, newspapers, magazines, English language Resource centres to acquire the English communication skills.

V. CONCLUSION:

English communication skills are recognised as the important element in the academic life and career of the engineering students. It requires making use of integrated methods to facilitate advanced communication skills, which is the demand of industry as well as society. The rural area engineering students should effectively make use of the faculty, education system and the amenities provided to them in combination with the self-efforts, to emerge as a competent user of English communication to become successful in life and career.