



Using Technology for Recreational Methods of Teaching English to Young Students

By

M. SURENDAR

Ph. D Scholar

Osmania University

Abstract:

For students to learn a language, they need many chances to use what they have learned in class. There are often problems in this area in the English language classroom because of boring lessons, teaching by rote, or not enough chances to use the language outside of school. Practicing a new language can also be scary, particularly for students with a high affective filter or other negative emotions that can get in the way of learning a language. Making learning fun is an excellent way to provide students chances to use what they've learned and lower their emotional filter. When teachers make learning fun and interesting, students are more likely to take part and try new things. Having fun while learning also allows learners remember what they've learned better because it is fun and memorable. The present article discusses the recreational methods of teaching English to higher secondary schools so as to improve their attitude toward learning English.

Keywords: English language learning, rote methods, negative emotions, making learning fun and interesting etc.,

Learning English is one method to hold the globe together. Today, English is more than a language; it is not merely a language. English is a worldwide language. People use English to communicate with individuals from other nations. It can connect one to individuals around the globe. Conversely, studying English can help one achieve success. It can boost the likelihood of quickly obtaining employment. Moreover, learning English can help improve students' life skills.

According to research, knowing English as a foreign language aid in the growth of one's native tongue. Mahu (2012) is of the opinion that through studying a foreign language, it has been discovered that students can increase their vocabulary and enhance their literacy. Some individuals view learning English as a monster. It appears to be something terrifying. English is regarded as a second/third language in a multilingual country like India. Students are therefore unfamiliar with English vocabulary. They continue to struggle with learning English. Different students may encounter varying obstacles and challenges when studying English. The improper learning approach is one of the variables that contribute to unachieved learning objectives.

Learners believe it is hard to recall English vocabulary and verb forms because they must be physically, mentally, and emotionally involved. Anxiety, enthusiasm, attitude, and skills can also affect ESL results. Students' confidence drops when they can't remember words. They may lose enthusiasm and interest in ESL, causing them to stop. Recreational environments for ESL learners may make them more interested in learning and allow them to fail without fear. When utilising recreational activities in ESL, the students would become actively involved in learning the language. To address the needs of an increasing number of English language learners, teaching techniques and strategies should take learners' experiences into consideration and improve their motivation and interest.

The ideas that assist learners in learning a foreign language are centred on the active and innovative adaptation of newfound information through a continuous monitoring of their independence and self-determination, in strong relation with the ability to evaluate in the teaching-learning of the English to assist students fix issues based on their needs and interests. It is crucial to work with knowledge, which means



building and improving practical and intellectual abilities, taking education and learning seriously, and adapting new knowledge in an active and creative way to help with self-analysis so that it can be used to solve problems and change the world.

English language learning stresses how important it is for students to be able to communicate fluently in English. This is because it is hard for them to study, since not everyone is able to use the right method to learn content, let alone communicate fluently. They need to work hard and study to overcome problems in their training. In the world we live in now, education needs to be more and more effective. Students at this educational centre often have trouble keeping track of their studies and responsibilities, and they have the wrong idea of what it means to study. Sometimes they don't do well in school because they aren't organised or don't know about techniques and resources that can help them do better in school.

Language Learning Strategy (LLS) is crucial to the learning process. Sartika (2019) says that there are many similarities between the ways that successful and unsuccessful students learn. In a study made by Tanjung in 2018, she found that In teaching-learning processes, both teachers and students must have the same amount of power. So, it is interesting to look at the strategies that both good and bad English learners use. This gives the teacher information that can be used to help students learn better. Less fun or even boring ways to learn English won't enhance students' English skills, but they will make them uninterested and less likely to study. Teachers should make learning activities more enjoyable. To come out of students' learning obstacles, such as a lack of concentration in and focus on the material, educators should use innovative and novel instructional strategies (Avila, 2016).

The most significant factor, however, is that students view the learning activity as something enjoyable. It can assist students feel at ease during the learning process. Naturally, engaging learning activities will have an effect on students' English proficiency. Avila in a study made in 2016 further asserts that it is essential for instructors to provide students with an idea of what to anticipate in the learning-course while making the class enjoyable, interesting, and valuable to the students. Students will subconsciously believe that they are not learning, but instead are being entertained. This greatly assists students in reducing stress while learning. Therefore, learning methods must be devised and tailored to students' needs. The present article discusses the author's perspective on how to teach English in an entertaining manner. It describes in full the methods for learning English without exerting any pressure. It also describes the strategies of a student learning English through enjoyable methods. Instead of empirical study data, the critical elaboration was based on a selection of pertinent literature. It will provide the reader with a comprehensive overview of English learning, focusing on the most effective techniques.

Learning English is challenging. The best approach should be used to teach the language. Using enjoyable methods to engage students in learning is one method for capturing their focus. When instructors employ activities that make learning enjoyable, students will devote their full attention to the learning process. There are numerous methods to study English. Students enjoy learning that is enjoyable. They can begin with engaging in an activity. Having fun while studying can increase students' desire to learn English.

Here are some suggested methods worth reading.

Speaking with Native speakers

Mixing with foreigners is an effective method for enhancing the speaking abilities of students. Students may be taken on a visit to a tourist destination (such as a Temple) where numerous international tourists are frequently observed and converse with them. Students may introduce themselves and inquire about nationality/country of origin, the weather, and the person's name. The foreigners should be encouraged to answer their questions. Therefore, students must use courteous language when inquiring. It is possible to feel a sense of pride when conversing in English with foreigners, assuming that the natives will view this as a very uncommon skill (Suwartono, 2018).



One can also be enabled to practise questions and responses beforehand. This helps students increase their confidence when communicating with foreigners. This direct contact activity teaches students a great deal, particularly about the culture. The students can learn about culture through the actual experiences of others.

Watching Programmes on TV

Students have a tendency to watch television every day, and it can be a good way to learn English in an entertaining manner. They can spend some time every day watching television. This is because television offers a wider variety of shows than other electronic forms of entertainment. According to Safranji (2015), the usage of films is an effective method for enhancing the listening skills of foreign language learners, resulting in a deeper understanding of English culture.

Students get access to several programmes, including movies, news, and entertainment. The internet also provides access to numerous international television stations. In addition, Webb (2015) acknowledges the significance of television, which is an excellent example of a source of authentic materials, by stating that "the greatest value of television for language learning may be its potential to provide large amounts of L2 spoken input, which can contribute to the development of vocabulary learning and listening comprehension, as well as other aspects of L2 learning." Television viewing is more strongly associated with amusement than with education. Students may gain a broad education and enhance their listening skills by observing television programmes.

Using Smartphones and Learning through Youtube Videos

YouTube videos provide an alternative option. Jati mentions that YouTube is now "a daily consumption" for people around the world, particularly adolescents (2019). YouTube videos are visually appealing and animated. According to Almurashi (2016), using YouTube videos as supplementary material in English lessons will increase students' comprehension and information of their addresses. In addition, it is likely to make learning more engaging and enjoyable. Additionally, he highlights that it enables students to more readily memorise their lectures. It also encourages children to watch and appreciate the entire film. There are numerous instructional films available for students to watch that will facilitate their English learning. The videos can be downloaded and saved so that students can access the content at any time.

Listening to Radio Programmes

Despite the fact that radio is not the most popular form of entertainment nowadays, it is still a viable option for learning English in a pleasant way. The hallmark of audio media is the medium's capacity to stimulate the hearing sense. Its primary trait is that the message is presented through auditory media using both verbal and nonverbal symbols. Through words and sounds, radio stimulates the listener's creativity (Budyana, 2018). Students may listen to the radio in their bedrooms each morning or night before falling asleep.

Chatting on Mobile Phones and Mailing

Attempting to have a real encounter can help students enhance their English-speaking skills.

Belinda in a study in 2018 asserts that watching and utilising a second language in its natural setting is one method for acquiring it. Facebook, Twitter, Mail, and Messenger can be used to communicate using the English language. Students can also locate folks from all over the world to communicate with. Occasionally, they lack the confidence to talk directly in front of others. Chatting or e-mailing allows students sufficient time to develop response texts. There is less stress and less burden. Even when engaging in this written activity with their friends, students should always employ the English language.

Internet connectivity is increasingly simple, and cell phones can fill in for some of its functions. Students will educate one another. Their linguistics knowledge (mostly vocabulary) and writing skills, as well as their spontaneity, will grow steadily.

Online games



A lot of students are hooked on playing several games, especially online games. Much of their time is spent playing games. Because of this, the online-games should be the best way for students to learn English while having fun. Digital Video Games provide will transfer to educational settings. This suggests that using Digital Video Games in the classroom has a positive effect on student motivation. Online games are engaging and engage students. Students will not experience boredom when learning English with online-games; rather, they will love studying while playing online-games. It is simple to access the games. Some games may be played on CDs, mobile devices, and desktops. On the other hand, the Internet is capable of supporting online games.

Writing for Magazines

Writing is one of the linguistic skills that students must acquire. Attempting to write is beneficial for enhancing students' English writing skills. It can assist students improve their command of grammar and vocabulary. It is impossible for students to enhance their writing skills without practise. Students may begin writing a type of overview, critical analysis, or other likely required material. For writing, students can prepare coloured paper or loose sheets for a binder. Before submitting it to the management of the school's Magazine, it can be edited by the students' English teacher or, if possible, learner peers.

According to Almurashi (2016), these exercises are intended to improve a student's writing and thought expression in a paragraph. Students and "editors" will take delight in their successful collaboration. Their brief pieces are published and widely read.

It is based on the actual experiences of Astria Alvany Dewi, a successful English student. She began learning English when she was in elementary school. It began while she watched a karaoke video. The English tune played by her father was *Yesterday by The Beatles*. She understood that the pronunciation and spelling were not same. Her mother purchased her initial dictionary. It includes the names and images of fruits and vegetables. She started her search for additional words by listening to songs, viewing movies, and reading and analysing book excerpts. Her grandfather also provided her with an exhaustive dictionary.

She once enrolled in an English class. She never attended class, though, because she deemed the learning process to be uninteresting. Then she chose to withdraw from the class. She did not acquire English by reading while acquiring the language. She only acquired 20% of her English proficiency through reading. It was reading some book and internet meme quotations. She typically learned English through films, songs, and other entertaining means. She utilised social media to learn English from senior year of high school to college. She conversed with her international pals from the United States, Philippines, Texas, Scotland, and other nations. She gained confidence, boosted her vocabulary skills, and, of course, learnt about slang words.

Dewi advised English-learners that English is no longer the language it once was. It is a need and a way of life. English can be found everywhere around one. There are numerous doors that can be opened with the English language. According to Dewi recounted, she utilised enjoyable methods to learn English. The enjoyable activities include watching movies, listening to music, conversing with foreigners through social media, and occasionally reading book excerpts. Therefore, learning English through an engaging activity greatly facilitates her English development.

Conclusion

It may be deduced from the preceding arguments that knowing English is now a must. Learning English with a sense of humour encourages students to take pleasure in the process. It also helps students avoid language-learning monotony. There are various enjoyable ways to study English. First is the presence of native English speakers and those who are very good at communicating in English. By asking the foreigners/tourists, students' speaking confidence will increase.

Second is seeing television programmes. By viewing television, students get new knowledge and enhance their listening skills. Third is YouTube video viewing. It allows students to conveniently memorise



their preferred video content. Fourth is radio listening. It stimulates the children's creativity through the use of words and sounds. Fifth is utilising English for conversing, emailing, and texting. It can enhance children's vocabularies and self-confidence.

Students may also converse with their international friends. Sixth is playing online video games. It is a collaborating method of engaging students. Games generate enjoyment for those who participate. Without realising it, people have picked up English from playing games. Students may attempt to write anything valuable to improve their English proficiency, such as a summary, critical review, advice, or other likely required material. It will increase students' command of grammar and vocabulary. These methods not only increase students' enthusiasm for learning English, but also facilitate their natural acquisition of the language.

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