

सत्यमेव जयते

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**Fostering
Teaching Learning
Practices for
Quality
Enhancement
in Higher
Educational
Institutions**

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- **Fostering Teaching Learning Practices
for Quality Enhancement
in Higher Educational Institutions**

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Role of Language Laboratory in Teaching English Language

Abstract :

In India, a considerable number of people speak and write English. The English that we use in everyday conversation is, as a result of the effect of Indianness, purely Indian English. We find in our English traces of our mother tongue. It happens subconsciously, we do not make any deliberate efforts for that, it happens perhaps because our speech organs become habitual of making its movements in a certain already set direction.

In order to develop good speaking skills, reading is the most important educational tool the Indian classroom has to work with. The practice of reading in itself is the most effective device for building up a rich vocabulary and effective spoken communication.

Introduction :

A native language is learned by observation and imitation. English being the second language, students learn grammar before they learn to speak and there are hardly any role models to be followed. Even though English is also taught as a first language in many schools, there are still problems in the system such as:

1. Regional medium background.
2. Inhibition on the part of the student.
3. Lack of trained English teachers at primary level.
4. Syllabus and examination pattern.
5. Composition of the class.
6. Problem of space and time frame.

The problem of speaking correct English arises in case of vernacular as well as English medium students. The students are unable to pronounce certain words correctly. They do not



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read with accurate intonations. They are actually trapped in a vicious circle; they do not understand and so do not find interest and eventually do not understand. It is the exigency of the present age to make students proficient in spoken English as it is the basic skill required in the industrial and technological society.

Although there is a paradigm shift as far as teaching and learning of spoken English in India is concerned owing to advancement in information and communication technology and globalization. It has come a long way from traditional approach of teaching oral English using various types of drills, role play, use of radio, tape recorder, television, then from computer assisted language instruction(CALI) to computer assisted language learning (CALL) and now Digital English Language Laboratory (DELL).

Role of Digital Language Laboratory :

The concept of language laboratory is an effective tool for language learning. It is useful for :

Acoustics :

English Language Laboratory provides an opportunity to all learners to hear the instructions. Each learner can listen to the lesson material at a level set by the instructor and also receive guidance from the teacher. Individual headsets enable the students to listen to accurate pronunciation.

Developing listening skills :

Language Laboratory helps learners to develop good listening skills. Learners hear the correct language patterns all the time through their headsets. The students might be more

attentive towards the sounds in the laboratory than those in the theory classes.

Privacy and Effective learning :

Individual headsets provide learners with a privacy. They promote not only effective learning but also speaking ability. It encourages the students to speak so that the shy students are benefited from it. Students are supervised individually and their doubts can be cleared easily.

Attention and Concentration :

Since the language laboratory allows the learner to listen to the program, each individual learner's attention is focused on the program material under study, they pay more attention on the study material.

Oral testing :

The students can test their tone and pronunciation which will shed their inhibitions regarding pronunciation and they can speak without fear.

Recording :

There is a facility for each learner to record their own voice and listen to it so as to avoid making mistakes.

Role-playing exercises :


Using the random pairing feature that all advanced language learning systems incorporate, instructors can generate a variety of exercises structured around role-playing. Learners can be grouped together in small numbers and hold conversational practice.

Teacher Monitoring :

Since the instructor does not have to concentrate on producing the next question or drill, he/she can concentrate more on student responses. The instructor has more time to



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produce materials and supervise class activities due to the automatic rather than manually controlled instructor console features.

Conclusion :

The need of the hour is an interaction-based teaching methodology which will create situations that will necessitate the speaking of the language.

Thus, ICT resources that form the integral part of our existence today can be effectively used to enhance language learning.

The students can be asked to access the movie/video clips through the internet, the

teacher can either share the video through some social networking sites like WhatsApp, Google classroom, etc. or give the URLs of the websites to the students.

One needs to make optimum and creative use of resources that are at hand and ensure that our students speak fluently in English.

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