



AUGMENTING VOCABULARY THROUGH NEWSPAPERS

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Abstract: English language plays a very important role in developing an individual personality. Without knowledge of English vocabularies one cannot play or work easily in this competitive world. Language is a stem of total English language, branches like speaking, writing and other skills, moreover, the vocabulary is considered as leaves. Vocabulary plays main role in communication; communication tells us about a person's ability and knowledge the way of using the vocabulary in a particular situation and how a person makes use of the apt vocabularies during conversations. Newspaper plays a major role in education field in order to develop student's knowledge towards English language. This will be very useful for the students whose medium of instruction is not English. When Newspaper is read the learner's vocabulary can be improved tremendously.

There are a few difficulties in Vocabulary Learning. Vocabulary learning is the most comprehensive and most difficult aspect of English for the learners to master thoroughly. Concentration is mandatory on learning the most frequently used vocabularies.

According to Bernstein, "those who are good in language are good in other subjects and those who fail in language fail in other subjects". Language plays very important role, which is a basic requirement of all the type of education to attain different levels in the field of education. Multiple sense English words and synonyms present special difficulties for the second language learners. Newspaper plays a major role in the education field in order to develop student's knowledge towards the English language. Access to Newspaper is very important for learning and acquiring knowledge and it helps to improve the

reading skill. Newspaper activities will inspire the students and it will also develop vocabulary and will help the students to have a command over the language. When Newspaper is

read the learner's vocabulary can be improved tremendously.

Although vocabulary is the most emphasized in the field of both speaking and writing in the English language and various instructional techniques have focused on its development, it is nevertheless recognized as the most difficult domain which is necessary to be developed in classroom condition. Vocabulary can be learnt through newspapers, books, articles, advertisements, subtitle from the English film and television, etc... But this research focused on enhancing vocabulary skill through the newspaper. Vocabulary is the main core of a language to produce ideas and thoughts in a coherent and appropriate manner. Most of the readers could not understand the passage because they lack of vocabulary knowledge and does not know how to frame the sentences. Vocabulary is the primary source to develop the knowledge of learners and also it helps as a tool for enriching their speaking skill.

Activities implemented to enhance vocabulary skills through a newspaper

Too many of the learners, classroom is the only place where they can get an experience to practice English. So, the activities which take place in the classroom should be framed to gratify the needs and interest of the learners. If the classroom activities are interesting and effective; the learners will enjoy the activities and they will be willing to continue the process. Vocabulary activities assist the learners to engage with the language item in a meaningful way. Most of the activities provided were creative. And a temporary departure from the reality will not only motivate the learners to participate, it is also an effective way to amplify the variety of languages accessible for making the learners to engage in the activities.

The first activity, 'Words through picture'. This activity aimed to make the learners write as many words as possible looking at the given

picture. This kind of activity produced the thinking capability of the learners in the classroom. It developed the critical thinking of the readers when they were observing the different types of images. First, they wrote the familiar words, what they knew about that picture and after that it stimulates the learners to find new words for different images. This activity helped in visualizing their memory and thinking skill.

The second activity was 'Reading a Story'. It was surprising to see the involvement of the learners in reading in order to comprehend the given story. The learners actively participated. Initially, the learners were asked to read the story from the newspaper. This activity gained success with the learners' active participation and was aimed at improving the vocabulary and comprehension skill of the language learners. The activity was conducted like a competition, so each learner participated in the activity keenly. This activity helps to build the learners vocabulary, because the practice was given to the learners in such a way that the learners were asked to repeat those vocabularies learnt in chorus and individually in classroom. This activity was enjoyed by the learners, because story reading made the learners' active and it was a sincere attempt made by the learners to learn the vocabulary and this activity made the learners to learn new vocabularies to improve their language skill.

The third activity, 'Word-Maze' was framed in two different types. This activity aimed to find the words using the letters in the box. The learners searched keenly and went through each and every box to find the words. This activity prepared the learners to create more vocabularies and they made sincere attempt in class. This activity stimulated the learners' interest to make use of the vocabularies known to them. It stimulated the learners' interest with involvement as well as improved their thinking skill. Learners felt that such activity produces a good learning atmosphere in the classroom. The activity was considered as a competition among themselves. Further the teacher motivated the learners.

The fourth activity, 'Word – Building' this activity helped the learners to form as many words as possible. The learners wrote at least 44 words using the word given by the teacher. It also evaluated the individual knowledge and it was helpful to test the memory power of the learners. The teacher gave different activities to the learners in an English language classroom, so that, they came forward with creative ideas and completed the activities with interest. This activity developed their vocabulary skill.

The final activity is 'Word Hunting'. The learners were asked to go through the whole passage and try to comprehend the meaning. The teacher conveyed the meaning of a particular word in the passage and the learners had to hunt right word keeping the meaning of the word which served as a clue. Here the learners skimming and scanning skills were developed. Before the activity the teacher demonstrated an example to the learners. The learners were curious in searching the words. This helped the learners to increase their cognitive skill. It also helped the learners to recognize their memory as well as develop the language skills and vocabulary. The activities were implemented to the learners and the research achieved the advanced results from the learners.

Findings

- Learners were curious and activities motivate the learners in their learning process.
- They were accessed to new vocabularies.
- It motivated them to read newspaper.
- Learners made use of their passive vocabularies.

Limitations

- Literacy happens to be a barrier in reading newspaper.
- Technological advancements can over the printed media.
- Does not save time.

Hence, in recent years there has been an importance on providing guidance for learners in developing their skills in reading. Vocabulary helps the learners to become masters in English. This draws to a conclusion that newspaper acts as an essential tool in enhancing the vocabulary skill of the learners.

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