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RESEARCH ARTICLE

COMMUNICATION SKILL – THE WEAKNESS OF INDIAN YOUTH IN CAREER WAR.

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Abstract

Though we are living in India and our surroundings doesn't need any day-to-day communication in English yet when we cope with some situations where it is necessary to communicate in English, we hesitate and find ourselves unable to express in a natural manner. Suppose you are an undergraduate and looking for a little lucrative career option or option of your choice that is not a simple but has some niche in the market and when you enter that world, you suddenly realize that here at this point of your career you lack in power of communicating in English as at that level a huge competition is among youth according to the ratio of population in India. Then what will you do? You were a Hindi medium student, were good at studies, have your own dreams to get a higher salary than your father or your peer group. But now at this point of time your dream shatters and you find no way to go as you have already dedicated almost 16 years to your studies bringing up your own dream for a particular field and suddenly have a shock that you don't deserve that place because of your poor communication skill in English. We have majority of our youth who face the same problem but we are still unable to find solution to this major problem.

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Paper:-

Every battle is won by strategies and skills used in it whether it is a battle field to win reign of a king or a battle field of career. Everyone has to fight his/her own battle. I myself experienced this in my life and realized that though we are living in India and our surroundings doesn't need any day-to-day communication in English yet when we cope with some situations where it is necessary to communicate in English, we hesitate and find ourselves unable to express in a natural manner. Suppose you are an undergraduate and looking for a little lucrative career option or option of your own choice that is not a simple but has some niche in the market and when you enter that world, you suddenly realize that here at this point of time you lack in power of communicating in English since at that level a huge competition is among youth in proportion to the ratio of population in India. You find yourself helpless or find yourself somewhere back in the corner because you are unable to overcome your fear to come in front of the crowd of modest and so called English medium candidates who have their so called attitude of hypocrisy (as far as I know, not all English medium students are good at English especially in English grammar. Maybe they are good to show off their little knowledge of the subject but lack in writing exposure). Suppose, if a Hindi medium student wants to go abroad for higher studies, his first dilemma is how he/she will communicate there. I feel that is the point where a student of merits, good at all subjects and cultured, feels as he has lost everything in life and cannot do anything. That is the end for him. This pulls him back and after this shock it depends whether he continues to fight with more courage (though it takes time) or leaves his battle.

What are the main reasons behind this scenario. Let's see and find out :-

The first reason is - not every Indian family is capable to provide their children a good English medium education as it is not available in government schools but in private schools where a high fee is charged. It is a compulsion for them to send their children in Hindi medium schools with small fee.

The second reason is our faulty education system where education is provided and perceived to complete the syllabus which itself is not sufficient to provide a good practical knowledge but has only a theoretical perspective that is crammed by students.

The third reason is the rules that confine the teachers not to hold students for long in the same class whether they deserve or not because if it is so then it is taken as a fault of teachers and they are presumed as failure in giving good performance in the class of their subjects.

And of course corruption, reservation and some other factors are also there to be the major factors that provide an inferior quality of teachers as well as students to the system.

The fourth reason is interest or curiosity of student that attract him/her to the subject. Youth of today wants to be in a very comfort zone and for that they don't bother about the necessity of knowing the subject.

I came across a number of students who are doing UG, PG, and other professional students of courses like MBA, BE, MBBS etc. who are not good in communication skill.

The impact of economic globalization has changed the role of English in India. The spread of English has started affecting the urban and rural areas of the country and there is an increasing demand for the teaching of communication skills in English to all.

English, a foreign language, has firmly deep-rooted in India for nearly two centuries. The enactment of English Education Act in 1835 and Macaulay's Policy of Education narrowly following it in the same year saw a rise of 'English Medium Schools' all over the country. The Indian Freedom Struggle lead by English speaking politicians gave thrust to the establishment of colleges and other institutions where English became the medium of instruction. After independence, politicians, bureaucrats, scientists, businessmen and the technocrats saw the merit in learning English to further their interest in a world where distances are shrunk by global connectivity. English emerged as the window of the world.

English served as a great amalgamating force in India's freedom struggle. After independence, the English language spread and became very essential. That was the moment when an intense patriotic feeling emerged to have Hindi as our national language for India so not to forget our identity as Indians. By the time it has become a language of trade and industry. English in Indian Education is for connecting people having different tongues or regional languages. When India became independent then a controversy began about the place, importance and study of the English. Some people favoured its importance and place. But who were nationalist, they did not support and said that British should leave this place with English. With all these issues we are still with this language though with so many lacks as it is not a language of our everyday life, defective method of teaching of English at school and college levels. But we cannot ignore the fact that by learning and speaking for the last 150 years, English has become the language of Indians to a great extent. It has made us capable to take an advantage of western scientific researches and inventions. We should not forget that English has its importance and it can never be removed from the Indian curriculum.

Some weak points are there to be considered to answer why English is yet a weakness of our Indian youth in their career path. These can be summarized as under:

- English is not being taught as a compulsory subject at lower primary level in government schools. It is taught only in private schools.
- There are not enough qualified teachers of English at school as well as at college levels.
- It is being taught at college level not as compulsory subject but as foundation course.
- Most of the books at college levels are in English. Students who are from Hindi medium face problems.

Beside this, there are some more problems that Indian face in learning and speaking this language are –

- **LINGUISTIC PROBLEM** (as not being our mother tongue so syllables are not easily recognized by learner).
- **SOCIAL AND POLITICAL PROBLEM** (There is no perfect sequence of teaching English in school and college, there is no clear policy about teaching of English in Indian Education, The society has been divided into two parts- Rural and Urban. The elite class is too small; they prefer English but the greatest mass neglect learning second language. The policy makers are still in dilemma to make it compulsory from lower primary)

- PEDAGOGICAL PROBLEM (English is taught but without having goal of acquiring skill of using English. There is lack of good English teachers. Little knowledge of linguistic of teachers)

The answers to all these issues are -

- Skills and Competencies of English Teacher
- use audio visual aids in language labs
- pronunciation must be correct
- Teacher must know the techniques of reading, writing and teaching
- Teacher must have knowledge of different types of activities and how to organize all these activities in his class room teaching.

Evaluation process also must be changed in the Teaching of English:

EVALUATION QUESTIONS SHOULD BE IN FORM OF –

- Essay type
- Short Answer type
- Objective type

EVALUATION TEST MUST INCLUDE –

- Oral test
- Written test
- Practical test

The teaching of English should be made more practical and language-oriented. English is to be taught as language of comprehension rather than as literary language.

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