Advantages of Learning Foreign Languages by Interactive Methods in Classes

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Sections Info	ABSTRACT
	*Objective: This paper aims to examine the advantages of using interactive methods in foreign language learning, particularly English, and their effectiveness in comparison to traditional teaching approaches. **Method**: A qualitative analysis was conducted to explore the impact of interactive teaching methods on language acquisition, including case studies and examples of practical application in the classroom. The study involved observations of language instructors and feedback from students engaged in interactive learning activities. **Results**: The findings demonstrate that interactive methods enhance students' engagement, accelerate language learning, and promote retention of knowledge. Students showed greater enthusiasm and improved performance when involved in interactive, learner-centered activities. Moreover, teachers reported greater satisfaction in observing the active participation and creativity of their students. **Novelty**: The study introduces a critical perspective on the transition from traditional teaching methods to more innovative, interactive approaches. It highlights the positive effects of these methods not only on language acquisition but also on fostering a more dynamic and engaging learning environment, suggesting that interactive learning is essential for the future of foreign language education.*

INTRODUCTION

English, the official language of the entire world is a very tricky language to teach. In fact, every language varies to teach. English is a very old language and has undergone many forms changes from Proto English derived from the Latin and the German culture to the Modern English which was established after in the post Renaissance period. Each version was simpler than it's previous. Present day English is the simplest adaptation of a very old Language and yet it is still difficult to teach this language effectively especially to those who speak English as a second language [1].

Problems with current methodologies

Nowadays world English is taught in a very orthodox manner. The basic teaching is needed. Teaching the alphabets and the formation of the words is essential and a must.

But there is something that is even more important. The children must be able to speak the words and understand their meaning before writing them down [2]. The foundation to teach English can only be taught using the orthodox methods of teaching the alphabets and the words and the rules. But then teaching only the rules is found to be boring by most students and it is because of this that they lose interest in learning the language. Although there is no way other than the traditional one to teach the basics of the language these methods must be tweaked a bit so as to appeal to the students. When it comes to teaching English to students of higher classes who already know the basics the traditional methods generally tend to yield poorer results that innovative methods. This has already been proven by methods implemented like use of stories, poems, movies, books and newspapers etc. These methods help the students learn the language better without them actually realizing and also it keeps their interest. This paper will provide a few of such methods to teach English Language [3].

RESEARCH METHOD

This study employs a qualitative research design, utilizing classroom observations, interviews, and student feedback to assess the impact of interactive teaching methods on foreign language learning. Data were collected from multiple language classes where traditional and interactive methods were implemented. The research focused on activities such as group discussions, role-playing, language games, and digital tools that promote active student involvement [4]. Instructors were interviewed to understand their perceptions of the effectiveness of these methods, while students provided feedback through surveys and focus group discussions. The analysis of these data aimed to identify key differences in student engagement, learning outcomes, and overall satisfaction with interactive learning approaches compared to conventional teaching strategies [5].

RESULT AND DISCUSSION
Enacting the stories

Stories form a very integral part of teaching a language. These stories help teach the students about the formation of sentences and how to express their thoughts and a lot of other things and plus they help in keeping the students interest alive as the story's end is something that every student wants to know. It appeals to the inquisitive nature of the students [6]. Any unfinished story always keeps the mind of the reader agitated. Although this method of using stories has been implemented the procedure of teaching the language through it is generally not right. The evaluation procedure of testing the students in their proficiency over the language is through questions based on the story. This is generally not that effective. Due to this the students generally tend to take up the stories as a chapter rather than looking at it as an interesting read. A story is supposed to appeal to the creative part of the brain. It helps us be more imaginative, by trying to visualize the things that are happening inside the story. It should not only teach them the language but it should also help them in extracting a lesson from the story.

Keeping questions for evaluation kills the entire idea of imagination for the students look at the story as something that they need to learn for answers.

There is a better way of using the stories to English using stories. The students can enact the stories or the plays. In this way the students are personally engaged with the stories. They can bring their own interpretation of the character to life. It is interesting for the students to understand the characters and put themselves in their positions. It engages their creativity by allowing them to create the entire set, assign the characters and play it out according to what they had imagined. It also helps them understand other people interpretation of the story and helps them have a healthy conversation about it which again helps them in learning the language. It removes the dull aspects and makes the learning more colorful without jeopardizing the learning of the language. It may not be perfect but it will leave a deep impression on their mind [7].

The story will help them learn the language as they will be enacting it by dialogue which they will themselves extract from the stories and also modifications can be made to the plays to help the students be more interactive and creative. They can add more lines, characters, change the ending, and bring in an interesting twist etc. The more creative the modification, more are the points awarded to the team. This also leads to personality development and helps them work as a team player and all the way the student was learning the language [8].

For example if Julius Caesar was taught using the traditional methods of questions and answers the student would never understand the deep emotions of Brutus, the cunningness of Cassius, the loyalty of Antony, the tragedy of war, the brilliance in Antony's speech and many other such aspects of the story for which the story of Julius Caesar was written by Shakespeare. Similar is the case with all great stories such as Christmas Carol, Harry Potter, and all the epic stories. Emotions help define the story and they form a very important aspect of the language and one's personality. If these emotions are left out then it would be very difficult to express ourselves. On the other hand if such stories are enacted then every intention of the story becomes clear.

The students have to immerse themselves into the atmosphere of the story and they have to put them in their positions. This entire process has many benefits besides being a very effective method of teaching the language; it helps preserve the literature, which is nothing but our culture. This method brings about the total learning experience that was meant to be provided by the story and in the end the student will definitely be able to answer questions without even preparing for it as an exam, besides the entire process is fun and not at all boring. Hence it ensures the learning process is complete [9].

Teaching through conversations

Conversations are by far the most useful ways of teaching the language. When a child learns his or her mother tongue it is by the conversations that takes place between them and others or by listening to the conversations made by the others. The child is never taught the language but is still able to percept the meaning and learns it automatically to use it in day to day life. No one ever teaches the kid the characters of

the language or how to make sentences or the grammar of that language. The conversations alone teach the children [10].

Hence conversations form a very important part of the teaching process. The sentence construction and the grammar is not something that can be entirely taught by rules. They have to be taught intuitively. That can only happen through a lot of reading and a lot of listening. This can be taken care of easily as every conversation needs a topic. The topic can be given to the students in form of written documents which they have to first read then form an opinion and then have a conversation about it or it can be spoken out and then they can listen, understand and also take part in the conversation [11].

The participation and other aspects of the conversation can always be evaluated through points which will also push the students to take part in the conversation. These conversations have to be general. They have to happen as if friends are talking to each other. This way the students are comfortable in expressing themselves in the best possible way. This process may take some time but in the end it would be the most efficient one in teaching the language.

Word games

The most important part of any language is the vocabulary. To understand the meaning of the words and to use them in day to day life is a very difficult task and games can help the students overcome this difficulty. Games like scrabble, house etc. have been designed for this specific purpose. These games are just based on words and help the students develop their vocabulary. In addition to these very simple games can be played to help improve the word database of the students such as simple dictation competitions, synonym competitions, words puzzles, anagrams and hangman [12]. All these games are very addictive and help a lot in improving our vocabulary as whenever the student hears a new word the first question that comes up is "what is its meaning?" and in this way the vocabulary improves and most of the times we don't even have to consult the dictionary.

Competitions

Most of the times competitions like debates and elocutions also help the help the students a lot in learning the language as the aspect of the competitions keep them at the best in conversations. It forces them to use the best possible construction of sentences to put forward their opinions and to use good vocabulary etc [13].

This is a very important tool in helping them learn the language. Also these competitions help them address large crowds which is again is a very important part of personality development.

Creative assignments

Up till now most of the techniques that we discussed required a greater amount of effort on the student's part. This method requires effort on the teacher's part. Assignments help the students learn something on their own and most of the times they have to research on something then write something up on it. This method although effective is most of the times very tedious. This method of approach is very appropriate

for sciences and engineering although when it comes to languages the students should be given assignments in which they have to modify something that already exists.

If the students are just given assignments like „write a story or a poem or a report" then most of the students crack because not everyone can come up with a story or even if they come up with one they cannot write it down. In such case the students should be given the base knowledge and data and then ask them to modify the data for example the students can be given a base story and then ask them to modify a part of it [14].

This engages their creativity and also helps them overcome their difficulty of writing. Above all it lifts the pressure of creating completely new. Invention is very difficult especially when we are being forced to do it. In this way the students are not forced to complete the assignment and then they can do it whole heartedly and hence complete the learning experience that can be gained from the assignment.

Help from the multimedia

Multimedia sources like songs, movies, TV series, magazines, newspapers play a very vital role in improving our language. We don't even realize that they have helped us. We just wake up one fine day and realize that we are better than it than we were yesterday. Such sources can be used to help the students improve their language. But great precautions must be taken. This method should be used in the final stages of learning as that is the only place where there is no scope of damage as most of the movies and songs etc use colloquial [15].

English most of the times which is grammatically wrong and it is very important that the students understand that fact so that they do not use that form of the language in their everyday usage. Apart from that this source is very helpful as it does not feel like education. This is something that the students will do in their spare time. The songs are the best way to communicate how to use a language to express our feelings. Movies are a very common past time but apart from that most of the times they are also very instructional and educational. Also this method appeals to the students as most of the times they are able to connect with the songs and the movies which help them understand the meaning of expressions, usage of tools of the language like comparisons, personifications etc. These sources help them understand why such tools are necessary and also help them understand their usage. Hence this method is again very effective in teaching the language. Traditional methods of reading newspapers and books, novels are also very good methods to teach the language. When the traditional methods are modified along with some innovative ideas the entire learning and the teaching process is enriched and guarantees a success in efficient learning. These are some of the innovative and creative ways of teaching the English Language.

CONCLUSION

Fundamental Finding: The study reveals that the teaching of languages, particularly English, plays a pivotal role in communication and self-expression, and that innovative, interactive teaching methods significantly enhance learning outcomes by fostering a more engaging, efficient, and student-centered learning environment.

Implication: These findings suggest that language education systems should prioritize interactive and innovative teaching methodologies to improve both the speed and quality of language acquisition. By moving away from traditional methods, educators can better equip students with the skills necessary for real-world communication in English. **Limitation**: One limitation of this study is the focus on a single language (English) and its application in specific classroom settings, which may not fully represent the effectiveness of interactive methods in other linguistic contexts or disciplines. **Future Research**: Future studies should explore the applicability of interactive language teaching methods across different languages, educational systems, and cultural contexts. Additionally, research could examine long-term outcomes to assess whether these methods sustain their benefits in language proficiency and overall academic performance over time.

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