



IMPORTANCE OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE IN THE WORLD AND ABOUT TESOL

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ABSTRACT

The article aims to review English language teaching to speakers of other languages and other related aspects such as the use of technology and the first language in classroom practices. As the need for English language competency develops, efforts to support students' learning also change. and it also talks about the importance of the English language in the world and gives information about TESOL. In addition to the teaching techniques, the technology development has also gained attention for improving effective teaching and learning. Because English is a language that is not used in daily communication and the variety of students' language competence, the use of first language in a foreign language classroom has also become another point to encourage the students' foreign language acquisition.

Keywords: teaching English, TESOL, teaching method

INTRODUCTION

Nowadays, more and more people are dedicating time to studying English as a second and a foreign language. Many countries include English in their school syllabus and children are starting to learn English at a younger and younger age. But what is the true value of learning English?

Whether you are looking for a new job or planning to travel the world, studying English can help you progress in life both personally and professionally. You can compete in the global job market, increase your career skills and start to meet people around the world.

First of all, it is the most common foreign language. This means that two people who come from different countries (for example, a Mexican and a Swede) usually use English as a common language to communicate. That's why everyone needs to learn the language in



order to get in touch on an international level. Speaking it will help you communicate with people from countries all over the world, not just English-speaking ones.

It's easy to see just how important English is around the world. Many international businesses conduct meetings in English, universities teach courses in English and, around the world, tourists and travellers use English as a common language.

But how did English become so important? Well, it all goes back to the British Empire, which at its peak covered 25% of the earth's surface. During colonial times, British rulers often obliged the people in those countries to speak English rather than their native language. Although the origins of English as a global language has a complicated past, the language has left an important mark on media, trade and business

On the Internet, the majority of websites are written and created in English. Even sites in other languages often give you the option to translate the site. It's the primary language of the press: more newspapers and books are written in English than in any other language, and no matter where in the world you are, you will find some of these books and newspapers available. In fact, because it is so dominant in international communication, you will find more information regarding nearly every subject if you can speak this language.[1]

Approximately 1 billion students around the world are currently learning the English language. These students include adults hoping to further their careers and to travel the world with ease, teenagers hoping to go overseas to continue their studies, and young learners hoping to pass school exams. As a result of this, English language teachers are in high demand, with vacancies around the world for a range of different class types.

A TESOL certificate is an essential qualification required by most schools when hiring English language (ESL) teachers.[2]

What does TESOL stand for?

TESOL stands for: Teaching English to Students of Other Languages OR Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages

As they would say in Southeast Asia, "Same same but different, ya?!"

A TESOL certificate is primarily for teachers who teach English to non-native speaking students in English-speaking countries. So if you were to get your certificate through a



course at a local university in the US, Canada, the UK, or Australia, it would most likely be a TESOL certificate.

TEFL and TESOL are used interchangeably in the ESL world and have both come to mean the same thing to many people.

Through this qualification course, you'll learn the foundational skills needed to become an English language teacher. This includes an essential understanding of how the English language is structured, along with a range of classroom management skills and language teaching techniques.

Techniques of TESOL in Teaching English

Zimmerman (2010) asserts that there have been some comments saying that teaching English is just a matter of implementing a strategy that will work for all types of students. Although this may be correct, most English teachers realize there are many aspects to the students such as English competency, personality, and sociocultural background. Knowing all of these aspects makes the teachers more confident in finding the right strategies for teaching English. For instance, research conducted in Japan found that Japanese students tend to be quieter in the classroom. She conducted the research with 197 Japanese students enrolled in English degree programs. Their English proficiency was at an intermediate level and they had received English lessons for 6 years before they were enrolled in the program. The research also involved 52 native English teachers and 58 Japanese English teachers whose teaching experience ranged from 1 – 35 years. The participants were asked to take questionnaires. The research gave similar but paraphrased questionnaires to the teachers. The results showed that the students tend to be silent because of linguistic and psychological problems such as a lack of confidence in speaking. However, the native English teachers thought that they were silent for cultural reasons and Japanese English teachers thought it was because they did not know the right answers. The research shows that there are differences in the ways that students and native and non-native English teachers see the causes of the quietness

Other research conducted in China reveals that many Asian students underestimate their own English proficiencies, which leads to anxiety when they learn English and little



class participation . The research examined 547 participants who were enrolled in non-English departments for undergraduate degrees. The research used questionnaires to obtain the data needed. The results showed that there was a positive correlation between students' EFL anxiety and unwillingness to communicate in English.[3]

CONCLUSION

The fact that English has become global and used as official languages in a number of non-English speaking countries has made teaching English for speakers of other languages more and more interesting to research. Finding the right teaching methods to make the students learn English effectively has been a constant issue in this area of teaching. As English has become global, each country has its own characteristics of what good English is. For example, the Singapore English, or Singlish, has its characteristics of being different from that of American and British English due to the influence of the mother tongue. Therefore, it is strongly recommended that English teachers take the students' backgrounds into account. Consequently, teachers may use any teaching methods that work effectively for both teachers and students. In relation to the use of technology in teaching, students and teachers sometimes find the technology overwhelming due to the lack of familiarity with the technology, and this may cause frustration. However, the anxiety and frustration are lower when teachers and students get familiar with the students. As a matter of fact, technology can make the learning more fun and effective because the students and teachers can have the learning at anytime and anywhere. On the other hand, teachers and students need to be careful in selecting the computer software or other programs because some programs do not provide learning. The use of the first language in an English as a foreign language class is viewed as an important part of learning. It is believed that using two languages in the form of codeswitching is very effective in teaching a foreign language because it can avoid misunderstanding between students and teachers. Although the portion is still questionable, the codeswitching can be optimally used in classes which focus on communicative competence and less optimally used in content-based classes



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