

## **INNOVATIVE TECHNIQUES FOR TEACHING ENGLISH COMMUNICATION SOFT SKILLS TO LEARNERS**

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**Abstract:** - It will not be wrong if it is said that this is the era of soft skills communication. Everyone try to do the smart work not the hard work because it is required in this 21<sup>st</sup> century. But if we talk about the soft skills communication in English it is challenging for the teachers and learners. The biggest challenge for any teacher is capturing each learner's attention, and conveying ideas effectively enough to create a lasting impression. As a teacher, to tackle this challenge effectively, you should implement innovative ideas that make the classroom experience much more lovable for your learners. Things include like active listening, teamwork, decision-making and influencing skills. Mastering these skills will help learners progress more rapidly and become more independent learners. However, isolating the specific vocabulary or grammar structures that the use of these skills is complex and they often get overlooked in language learning classes as a result.

➤ **Keyword:** - Innovative techniques, games, white board, YouTube, Face book, WhatsApp, Role of films, Audio & Video Tools and Presentations and assignments.

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**Introduction:** - In the present scenario English communication skill teachers have always been concerned about the inadequacy of conventional methods of English communication skill teaching in Indian education systems. As a result, the English communication skill teaching is swinging from methods to post-method pedagogy, although it still remains in motion. Due to tremendous progress in information and communication technology, the scenario of contemporary teaching techniques is entirely changed. The main motto of my paper is to say all the teachers of 21 century that they should shed traditional concepts and techniques of classroom teaching and should adopt the recent and innovative teaching techniques. English communication skill teachers must be innovative, creative and resourceful with knowledge of the subject and adopt new techniques to change social economic status of our country. Due to globalization the world is changing rapidly, hence a teacher has to improve and upgrade knowledge of innovative techniques to meet the demands of changing scenario. Various innovative materials and strategies will assist for the effective learning of students. There are so many techniques and tools to stimulate creativity in students. It should be the responsibility of a teacher to identify every young student's creative abilities and to encourage creative contributions. Teachers as well as learners should think more and more ways to develop their creative ideas. Encourage different ideas; give them the freedom to explore these ideas. Learners need to learn to express themselves clearly and convey their message in as few words as possible.

The biggest challenge for a teacher and learner is that most of the learners think that communication is just about speaking. But the best ways to be a good communicator is to listen to the person you are talking to. Learners can show interest in what someone is saying is by asking clarifying questions and rephrasing what they've said to make sure they've understood them fully. The more they listen, the easier it will be to respond.

### **Some Innovative Techniques that are Mentioned:-**

#### ➤ **Use of technology:-**

In 21<sup>st</sup> century learner starts to use technology for their learning. There is a multitude of technological resources you can use for improving learners' communication skills. This technology focuses on how the speaker pronounces and enunciates different words or phrases.

There are some great free apps that improve students and learners' communication skills at all levels of their learning.

➤ **Use of white board:-**

The uses of white board save the time and energy which was spent on the black board. It is new for the learners, so they take extra interest to learn and know the new things presented on the white board. It allows us to save and print notes written on the board, control the classroom computer from the whiteboard, play listening activities on the sound system, use the screen as a slide for presentations, access the internet, and so on. The possibilities seem endless.

➤ **Digital platforms:-**

21<sup>st</sup> century provides a digital platform to all types of learners. When we discuss innovation, we often immediately think of the internet and what we can now do online. **Facebook** and **Whatsapp**, that creates a safe online environment for teachers, students and parents to connect with one another.

Cloud-based tools like **Google Docs** have also become indispensable. It will not be hyperbole if it is said that Google become life even breath of the teachers and the learners.

**YouTube** is become first hand requirement of the learners. Through that everything seems in control. Every solution is now available on this channel. Through that teachers can download their lectures from here and can show to learners. Teachers and learners not only find their study material but they also learn that how a best lecture is delivered.

The list of digital platforms is extensive and growing all the time. This world of digital resources is enabling the teachers to create activities, lessons and courses from a range of digital tools.

➤ **Online Learning:-**

Online learning becomes the passion as well as the need of the time. The ability to communicate online with people outside the classroom enabled students to meet and interact with others in English. Online lectures are delivered by the teachers and the learners attend these lectures to sit

their homes as well as they have assigned the home work also. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century it was difficult to learn English but in this century it becomes very easy through the new innovation in this field. And as for teachers, the ability to converse with students face-to-face online has opened up a whole new market for online classes.

One of the biggest benefits of the internet for language learners is the sudden widespread availability of authentic resources. But with so much content available to us, choosing the right online materials is crucial for efficient and effective learning. For that the requirement of a guide or a teacher is must.

➤ **Learning through Mobile:-**

The development of mobile technology and the proliferation of smart phones have enabled many of us to access the internet and a huge variety of apps. Learners can search for new words using dictionary option in the mobile phones and enrich their vocabulary. They may verify the spelling, pronunciation and usage of the specific word they searched for.

➤ **Role of films in communication skills:-**

Communication is one of the most basic and essential skills. It enables people to share thoughts, opinions, and ideas, and receive them in turn. Although it may appear simple on the surface, effective conversations include a give-and-take exchange that consists of elements such as:

- body language
- eye contact
- responding

Learners can learn the foundational elements of Communication by watching films or videos of these interactions taking place. It helps the learner that how a person should response and react in given situation. It increases the vocabulary of a learner. There are so many short movies on the YouTube that are based on English soft skills communication. That is an innovation in English communication skills.

➤ **Storyboard Teaching:-**

**Rudyard Kipling** said, “**If history were taught in the form of stories, it would never be forgotten.**”

It is the best way for school children to teach through story telling method. It is a great way to teach any subject which requires step-by-step memorization or visualization highly-conceptual ideas. A teacher can also encourage the use of storyboards as a form of communication and let the students tell a story in pictures using their imagination

➤ **Communication Improve through Games:-**

Games which are task based and have a purpose beyond the production of speech serve as excellent communicative activities .The aim of all language games is for students to use the language; Games offer students a fun filled and relaxing learning atmosphere. After learning and practicing new vocabulary, students have the opportunity to use language in a non stressful way .While playing games, the learner's attention is on the message, not on the language. Rather than paying attention to the correctness of linguistic forms, most participants will do all they can to win .This eases the fear of negative evolution , the concern of being negatively judged in public which is one of the main factors inhibiting language learners from using the target language in front of other people. The main purpose is to make the learners talk and stimulate their imagination, curiosity and interest.

➤ **Audio & Video Tools:-**

Incorporate audio-visual materials to supplement textbooks during your sessions. These can be models, filmstrips, movies, pictures, info graphics or other mind mapping and brain mapping tools. These methods will not only develop their ability to listen but will also help them understand the concepts in a better way. For example, you can get some oral history materials, conduct live online discussions or playback recordings of public lectures.

➤ **Presentations and assignments:-**

Team-building exercises can also help students sharpen both oral and written communication skills. Not only does it offer students the chance to work in small groups, thereby reducing some of the pressure, but it also gives them the opportunity to debate their opinions, take turns, and work together towards a common goal.

➤ **Use tasks and activities that foster critical thinking:-**

Another task-based method for improving learner's communication skills is through critical thinking exercises. These can be done verbally or through written assignments that give students the chance to answer questions creatively using their own words and expressions.

**Conclusion:** - Over the last couple of decades, learning has gradually been moving from a teacher-centered top-down approach to a student-centered, bottom-up one. The trend has accelerated rapidly in recent years with the growing quantity and quality of information on the internet. In many respects, this has changed the teacher's role from that of knowledge-transmitter to consultant, guide, coach, and/or facilitator. Whatever may be the methods and approaches, the most pragmatic and the desirable thing seems to explore the possibility of using the under used and valuable materials which will definitely facilitate the learning and teaching of language skills. We need to have interactive teaching and this changing role of education is inevitable with the introduction of multimedia technology

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