

## **CONSTRAINTS IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNING AT U.G. LEVEL WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO SPEAKING SKILLS**

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### **ABSTRACT**

*English is now one of the major languages of the world. It is spoken by people in the U.K., the U.S.A., Canada, Australia, as the first language. The major developing countries like India, Bangladesh, Nigeria, Srilanka and Tanzania, It is the most wider spread language in the world. English language is originally the language of the Angles which is later adopted as the language of classroom, government, business and commerce, education, mass media, literature and internal as well as external communication in Nigeria and most African countries. Many students master the fine points of English grammar but find themselves at a loss when it comes to actually having a conversation with native speakers*

**KEYWORDS:** *English Language Learning.*

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### **INTRODUCTION**

English is now one of the major languages of the world. It is spoken by people in the U.K., the U.S.A., Canada, Australia, as the first language. The major developing countries like India, Bangladesh, Nigeria, Srilanka and Tanzania, It is the most wider spread language in the world. English language is originally the language of the Angles which is later adopted as the language of classroom, government, business and commerce, education, mass media, literature and internal as well as external communication in Nigeria and most African countries. Many students master the fine points of English grammar but find themselves at a loss when it comes to actually having a conversation with native speakers.

#### **English in India**

With the British leaving India in 1947, the problem of English education attained a new dimension. Language policy was one of the immediate concerns of the government of India. The specific problem was the change of medium to the vernacular and yet retain English for a variety of needs as a library language, as a link language as a medium for higher levels of education and as the official language. A number of commissions were appointed to examine the issue of medium of instruction in education.

- Official language commission (1956)
- University Education commission (1948-49)
- Kunzru Committee (1957)

- The University Grants Commission Committee of experts (1960)
- Education Commission (1946-66)
- Acharya Ramamurthy Commission Report (1990)

All the above commissions emphasized that Hindi should be used as the official language along with the regional languages all of which have been given the status of National language. It was recommended that English should be continued as Associate official language and also as a medium of instruction of higher levels of education. Importance was given to English as second language. Since language learning involves the learning of four skills: (Listening, Speaking, Reading, writing) the learning process is not complete if any of these four skills. Language is primarily a means of communication, and one needs both oral and written communication though the relative emphasis depends on the different needs of the student. Spoken English, therefore, should be an essential part of English language teaching.

Speaking is a productive skill like writing. It involves expressing ideas through meaningful spoken utterance. This type of communication takes place mostly in a face-to-face situation with a small group of three or four participants. Speaking is also involved when using the telephone, where the speakers can't see each other, and in public lectures or speech type situations where there are many listeners in the audience. However, when learning to speak in a target language the focus is mainly on face-to-face interaction with one person or a small group of persons.

## **OBJECTIVES**

- What are the problems mostly faced by U.G. learners in speaking English.
- How can the needs of learners be defined and addressed in a regular Classroom
- What are the problems they face in speaking and how to avoid them

## **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

The Method of Oral Proficiency Test is used to determine the constraints of learning English in the selected group of students.

## **TOOLS FOR RESEARCH**

The speakers' fluency, grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, and overall communication ability is assessed by analyzing the speaker's presentation.

## **HYPOTHESIS**

- Focus on yourself—Are you ready to listen
- Listen to yourself- Where is your mind today.
- Pay attention to the environment.
- Check in with yourself to make sure you are just listening and speaking.
- Talk with others
- Practice with foreigners...etc.

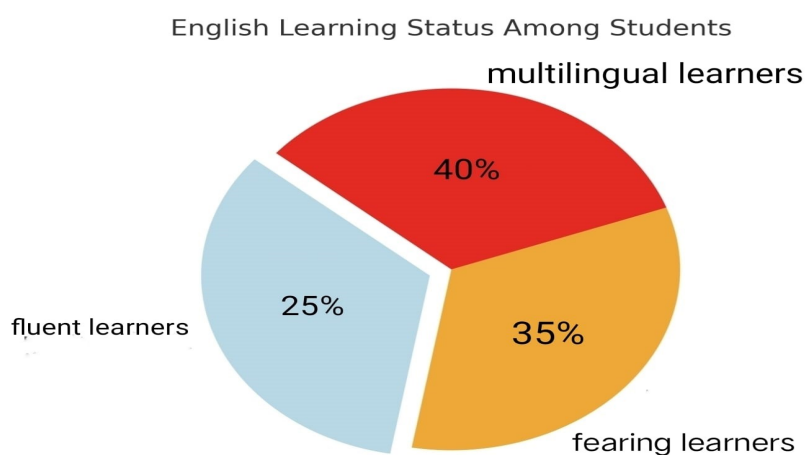
## ANALYSIS OF DATA

### The JAM

The selected 90 students are asked to participate in a JAM (Just A Minute) session. They are instructed to speak in English in front of other participants for a minute on a topic of their choice. After careful analysis of their performance they are categorized into three groups. And the three groups are presented in the below pie chart.

In this project a survey was conducted to know the U.G. Level students English Proficiency and also their opinions. We chosen 90 students from Under Graduate level. Most of the students were poor in their speaking and moreover they afraid to speak in the classroom while asking doubts. Mainly in rural-areas especially in Telangana students are very poor in speaking. Their parents are illiterate people and also the mother tongue in Telugu. The people who is in Telangana were very poor and economically they are not fit, and the area is not developed in all facilities. Because the students do not have all facilities they depend on the city of Hyderabad for higher studies. Telangana Academy For Skill And Knowledge centre play to a very important role in U.G. level colleges. But there is no full time mentors to conduct this programme, the government should provide full time mentors for smooth conduct of TASK . It is very helpful to improve their communicative skills and job orientation.

In reality, the only way to develop fluency in speaking is by huge amounts of listening, and then practicing. The following are a few tips for improving English speaking skills. Don't forget that listening is the foundation for speaking! If you want to practice speaking, here are some suggestions for how to improve English speaking skills.



**Figure 1**

We chosen 90 sample students from Under Graduate level. We presenting our observations in this pie-chart. In this pie-chart we identified three categories of learners, they are multilingual learners , Fearing learners, and fluent learners. In this study we used JAM (Just A Minute) session. By this case study we finalised 40% multilingual learners, 35% fearing learners and 25% fluent learners. So, we are suggesting that multilingual learners to try to speak in English only not speak in their mother tongue. Fearing learners try to speak with friends and neighbours they overcome this fearness.

It shows that half of the students have some English speaking skills, the other need more support to overcome fear and improve fluency.

In this study an attempt was made to find ways of helping students from regional medium to develop speaking skills in regular class room U.G. level .This project is important because spoken English is needed more and more in higher education and for many jobs. It is not only for English oriented students; it is also to be used in all the departments of the students. Generally interviews are conducted after the written test in many organizations.

There is unable to prepare their own resumes. Here the main purpose of conducting interviews is to test the ability of candidates communication skills & other aspects. But backward students do not have an exposure to English in their regular syllabus because its focus in on reading and writing and they cannot afford go to private coaching centres.

We need the language/the communication for different purposes according to our necessity in our daily life. We need the use of the skills of speaking for following purposes, such as

- For communication
- To express ideas/views
- To solve problems
- To get a good job
- To give lecture/speech
- To teach subjects
- To give presentations and seminars etc.

### **Find an English-Speaking Conversation Partner**

First of all, it's important to find native speakers to practice with. Students who are living around many English speakers may be able to find informal opportunities to chat with neighbours and local business people. Joining a club or a volunteer organization can be a great way to get to know people informally. If that isn't an option, consider hiring a private tutor. A lot of students find and meet with tutors online via tools like Skype or Google Hangouts.

### **Make Sure To Listen As Well As Speak**

When practicing with a native speaker, try to balance your listening and speaking. It's a good idea to prepare questions in advance so that the conversation will flow back and forth. If your conversation partner asks you a question and you answer at length, you can always turn the question back to your partner by asking, "What do you think?" or "What about you?"

### **Record Your Conversation Practice**

Recording is a great way to get the maximum benefit from a conversation with a native speaker. When you listen again, you can evaluate your own pronunciation and notice areas where you need to improve. You can also review the content of the conversation, take notes on new vocabulary or misunderstandings, and prepare questions for the next meeting.

### **Surround Yourself with the English Language**

Another way to improve your English speaking skills is to immerse yourself in English as much as possible. Watch movies or TV in English, with subtitles if you need them, and watch the same programs over and over. Most people find that they understand more each time.

Listening helps you become familiar with the rhythms and intonations of English. Once the sounds are familiar, try imitating them.

### Practice with Music and Movies

Listen to music in English and sing along. Music is one of the best tools for learning intonation pronunciation. Listening to and singing songs might also help you remember vocabulary and phrases (if the song is easy to understand), and it will help you learn to pronounce English rhythm in a more natural way. By unconsciously imitating the singer, you'll learn to pronounce phrases the way native speakers do. One good song for ESL or EFL students is "Tom's Diner" by Suzanne Vega because it uses simple language to describe everyday scenes and actions. Movies are a much better choice for learning English. You'll learn vocabulary, idioms, slang, pronunciation, and listening by watching movies. Be sure to use my movie technique when you do this!

### Read Aloud

Reading out loud is a great way to practice speaking when there are no conversation partners available. Reading aloud gives you a chance to focus on pronunciation and pacing without worrying about coming up with words. Make sure to practice with material that you can understand. Some students find videos online that have transcripts. Many TED talks, for example, include word-for word transcripts of the talk. By reading aloud from a transcript, you can check your pronunciation by listening to how the speaker says something.

### Talk To Yourself

Saying your thoughts out loud or narrating your actions ("I am drinking coffee, and now I'm going to open my book") can be a very effective way to practice spoken English. By talking to yourself, you can become more fluent in translating your thoughts into spoken words.

Practicing alone is also a low-pressure way to practice, since no one will hear your mistakes.

Listen and observe when you speak

**Pay attention** to what others say. Pay more attention to their **body language**.

Do they look bored? Crack a joke.

Do they look confused? Encourage them to ask a question.

Think before you speak

**Relax.** People prefer a well thought-through answer than a rushed up answer. So give yourself some time.

Speak slowly

It will give you time to think and frame your sentences, it will also help you put your **message across more clearly**.

Learn sentences, not only words

When you learn a new word, learn how to use it in a sentence immediately. **Memorize how to use it and not just it's meaning.**

Go online and have some fun

**Pick an English song** with subtitles, sing it and understand it.

Smile often

Remember, **a smile often speaks a thousand words**. So smile while you speak and keep shining.

Here we are suggesting some of the common activities for practicing and developing speaking skills are

- Talking about oneself
- Maintaining contacts and relationships with fluent speakers
- Expressing one's views
- Expressing a need for something
- Seeking and giving instructions
- Discuss ideas
- Express reactions
- Giving Instructions
- Conveying instructions
- Being able to communicate with teachers and classmates
- Asking and answering questions
- Narrating an event
- Participating in group discussions in various roles such as initiator, contributor, information seeker, opinion seeker information giver, opinion giver, evaluator/critic, reporter etc,
- Talking about a topic
- Presenting a paper and seminars
- Talking about hobbies and interests
- Chatting with friends on internet
- Listening radio and watching T.V.
- Reading daily English news papers or magazines 20) watching English movies regularly.

## **FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION**

In this survey the results showed that they are very weak even after years of studying English because of opportunity and environments and lack of proficiency/competent teachers. But the government should be fill competent teachers in school level. They will automatically develop their skills .In U.G. level the English must be implemented in final year also because they should know how to attend interviews and CV preparation for their higher studies.. But their interest and

motivation is very high in addition to all these should be more exercises for spoken skills. Training is needed for their teaching because the trainers know how to motivate and how to design and prepare materials according to the student's standards and classroom atmosphere to improve students skills in communicate at U.G. level. This gives more importance to TASK for the improvement of communication skills. The government should conduct workshops, and orientation programmes for the faculty for the enhancement of spoken skills. Government as a matter of priority should make available necessary facilities that will empower teaching and learning of English.

“Speaking skill is like learning car-driving, It has to be always practiced to become perfect”

“ Practice Makes Man Perfect”

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