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PRACTICAL UNDERSTANDINGS OF COMMUNICATIVE LANGUAGE TEACHING: A CASE STUDY OF ENGINEERING INSTITUTES IN PUNJAB

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ABSTRACT

With the herald of globalization, English language has established itself as a global passport for professional success. Keeping in view the significant status of India in the current global market, it has become increasingly important for the technically skilled youth to be proficient in English communication. Thus, English language teaching has acquired a crucial role in the technical education system of India. What is required is an appropriate teaching methodology that answers the demands made on the aspiring technocrats by the existing competitive scenario. One such teaching method which has gained immense popularity in the recent past of language teaching practice is Communicative Language Teaching (henceforth CLT) method. The concept of CLT is not new to India but its scope is very limited and this approach is not finding its full expression. Most of the language teachers still have misconceptions about CLT and are unsure about how to implement it in the language classrooms. Thus, through this paper an earnest endeavor has been made to understand the English language teachers' practical understandings of Communicative language teaching in the technical institutes of Punjab, India. A small survey will also be incorporated in the study to substantiate the results.

KEYWORDS: Communicative Language Teaching (CLT), Contextual Factors, English as Foreign Language (EFL), English Language Teaching (ELT)