



MENTAL ENLIGHTENMENT SCIENTIFIC – METHODOLOGICAL JOURNAL

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<http://mentaljournal-jspu.uz/index.php/mesmj/index>



MODERN METHODS OF TEACHING ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

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ABOUT ARTICLE

Key words: English language teaching, modern methods, flipped classroom, community learning, educational technology, student engagement, learner autonomy, teacher involvement, language acquisition, interactive learning.

Received: 16.05.25

Accepted: 18.05.25

Published: 20.05.25

Abstract: The application of contemporary teaching techniques in English language instruction is examined in this article, with particular attention paid to tactics like technology-enhanced instruction, community-based learning, and the flipped classroom. Because traditional approaches does not seem to work as Bergmann and Sams quoted “The traditional model of instruction does not work for every student”[1]. It looks at how these methods encourage greater engagement in both traditional and digital classrooms, boost learner autonomy, and support student-centered learning. The article also highlights how

important teacher participation is to successfully enabling these strategies. It makes the case that incorporating cutting-edge teaching resources and interactive learning environments greatly enhances language acquisition and communication abilities, drawing on current research and real-world classroom experiences. The study comes to the conclusion that, with careful application, contemporary techniques can make teaching English more effective, inclusive, and inspiring.

Introduction

For achieving positive outcomes teachers firstly should understand how English language itself functions “Teachers need to understand how language works in order to help students become proficient readers, writers, and speakers.” Quoted Freeman D and Freeman Y [2]. The need for efficient English language training has increased dramatically in the quickly globalizing world, especially in non-native settings. With an emphasis on strategies that go beyond conventional grammar-based instruction, this article examines contemporary approaches to teaching English as a second language (ESL). It looks at how technology, learner-centered approaches, and communicative strategies that emphasize fluency and practical language use can be combined. Important techniques are covered, including the Communicative Approach, Task-Based Learning, Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL), and the application of Artificial intelligence in ESL (English as a second language) classes. The article also discusses the opportunities and difficulties educators encounter when implementing these contemporary methods, especially in multicultural and multilingual settings. The field of English language instruction has changed significantly in recent years. Learner-centered, dynamic approaches are gradually replacing traditional grammar-translation techniques. This change is a reflection of the increasing demand for students to have practical communication skills in addition to theoretical knowledge. The way that English is

taught and learned has also been significantly influenced by globalization and technological development. Since English is becoming a universal language, educators must modify their teaching methods to accommodate the demands of a wide range of students. Interactive, context-based learning that promotes student engagement and critical thinking is now the main focus. The purpose of this article is to examine the best contemporary teaching strategies that help students become self-assured, proficient, and self-sufficient English as a second language users.

Methodology

In contemporary ESL classes, one of the most popular approaches is Communicative Language Teaching (CLT). In contrast to conventional methods, CLT places more emphasis on communication than accuracy, encouraging students to apply English in authentic contexts rather than learning grammar rules by heart. Opportunities for genuine engagement are produced via exercises like role-plays, interviews, and group discussions. CLT gives students more confidence while enhancing their speaking, listening, and fluency abilities. Additionally, it encourages teamwork and problem-solving, two crucial 21st-century abilities. "Cooperative learning is more than simply putting students into groups; it requires structure, planning, and the implementation of principles that promote interaction and accountability" claim Johnson and Smith two professors who studied active learning [3]. Useful for discussing the structure of effective group-based active learning. By facilitating learning rather than controlling it, teachers enable students to participate more actively. This strategy is versatile and effective since it has been shown to work in a variety of cultural situations and can be tailored to students with varying levels of skill. Another method that widely used is "Task-based language teaching" using meaningful activities as the main organizing and teaching unit is the focus of task-based language teaching, or TBLT. Writing a blog article, organizing a trip, or making a film might all be considered tasks. The goal is to use language to accomplish a particular goal. With this approach, kids pick up grammar and vocabulary organically as they go through assignments.

This gives pupils a clear learning goal and reflects real-life usage, which inspires them. Learner autonomy, creativity, and critical thinking are all encouraged by TBLT. In project-based learning settings where students interact with real materials, it is especially helpful. This method helps to raise the positive competence which leads to authentic outcomes. As Mukhabbat Yusupova highlights “Competence based learning is the process by which students develop their skills they need apply the knowledge, skills and abilities acquired by students in their personal, professional and social activities” [7]. Teachers oversee and direct the process while providing criticism when required. Through TBLT, language acquisition becomes interesting, pertinent, and closely linked to students' individual objectives and experiences. It is now more important than ever to include technology into ESL classes. Technology-Enhanced Language Learning (TELL) turns passive learning into an interesting experience with the use of resources including virtual classrooms, interactive whiteboards, and language learning applications. Personalized learning pathways are provided by platforms such as Google Classroom, Quizlet, and Duolingo. At their own pace, students can work on their speaking, writing, listening, and reading skills. Zoom and Microsoft Teams are two examples of video conferencing platforms that facilitate communication with native speakers throughout the world. Multimedia materials can be used by educators to give students real-world language exposure. Additionally, language games, podcasts, and digital storytelling enhance classroom interaction. TELL makes English more accessible, particularly in rural or under-resourced settings, by supporting customized instruction and accommodating different learning styles [6].

With the effective CLIL method, students study academic subjects like geography, science, and history in English. With this approach, students can simultaneously gain language proficiency and subject-matter expertise. International schools and bilingual education both make extensive use of CLIL. It promotes critical thinking, enhances understanding, and increases vocabulary learning. Students are more motivated to learn because they are focused

on comprehending the material and use English as a tool. To enhance comprehension, CLIL classes frequently incorporate visual aids, graphic organizers, and practical exercises. In order to maintain topic content while offering linguistic support, teachers must properly construct their sessions. CLIL is perfect for long-term language development since it equips students to use English in professional and academic contexts. The flipped classroom is a cutting-edge approach in which students watch videos or read books at home to acquire new material, then use class time for practice and discussion. Bergmann & Sams claim "We didn't set out to create the flipped classroom. We just wanted to help our students." This allows students greater choice over their learning rate and flips the conventional learning model. Additionally, it frees up class time for lively, interactive exercises like peer review, presentations, and debates. This method helps ESL students understand more complex content by allowing them to go over it more than once. Teachers take on the role of coaches, providing individualized instruction during class. The flipped paradigm promotes deeper involvement, self-study habits, and accountability. This approach is made more practical and efficient by technology, particularly for language learners who require additional exposure and practice to grasp complicated concepts.[4] The use of gaming features in educational settings to boost motivation and participation is known as "gamification." Leaderboards, prizes, points, and levels are all tools that teachers might use in ESL classes. Playing games like Kahoot!, Wordwall, or language escape rooms adds excitement to the practice of grammar and vocabulary. Additionally, gamification improves memory retention, engagement, and focus. It lessens the dread of making mistakes that many language learners experience and promotes healthy competition. Digital games also provide real-time feedback, which aids pupils in pinpointing their areas of which increases the motivation in students. As Harmer J " highlights Language learning will not take place unless students are motivated. They must want to learn". Gamification changes classroom dynamics and contributes to the development of a positive, dynamic learning environment that facilitates language acquisition by transforming learning into a fun task [5].

In contemporary ESL instruction, the teacher's function has changed from being the only source of information to serving as a mentor and learning facilitator. It is now expected of teachers to incorporate technology, provide interactive lessons, and adapt their teaching to each student's needs. In order to encourage students to take chances and express themselves in a new language, they must provide a safe and encouraging environment. Since teaching strategies change in response to shifting student profiles and educational resources, ongoing professional development is also crucial. Teachers are essential in fostering multicultural awareness, boosting students' confidence, and motivating them. In today's varied classrooms, their flexibility, inventiveness, and empathy are essential components of effective ESL instruction. Modern approaches have many advantages, but they also have drawbacks. The technology required for flipped classrooms and TELL is not available in every school. Teachers may not always have the resources or training necessary to use techniques like TBLT or CLIL. Participation and engagement may also be impacted by cultural perspectives on education. Some students might feel uneasy with too much student-centered learning, or they might prefer more conventional approaches. Classroom conditions, learner backgrounds, and learning styles must all be taken into account. Teachers need to find a balance between creativity and pragmatism. In order to effectively meet the needs of students, successful ESL teaching requires not only methods but also careful execution, adaptability, and constant reflection.

Results

In this article we have explored 8 methods that modern teachers have been using in their teaching experience. Now let's deep dive into analyzing them. First method is "Community language teaching" as it obvious from its name it mostly depends on learning with community which mostly focuses on authentic materials rather than academic ones. This method only can work efficiently for tourists or for the people who are going to work somewhere cause they need to learn everything in a short period of time but when it comes to studying degree or other academic purposes it is necessary to learn everything inside out. It is

a good option if you have short period of time to learn the intended purposes, but it is suggested to use another method if you want to improve your English in an academic way. Now it is turn for task – based language learning. It helps to boost learning process by doing different tasks ranging from taking an interview to write your favorite dish's receipt. It engages students cause it somehow individualize the learning process and helps to explore the beauty of language. We can use this method to teach academic and general English but before we should customize it. We live in the era of technology which makes it impossible not to use it in Teaching English as a second language. "Technology-enhanced language learning" usage of technology in teaching improves its overall quality. But overusing them may cause attention - related problems during the class. The next method to explore is "Flipped classroom" method which mostly emphasizes on independent learning and pushing students to self – study. We cannot flip the classroom as it said.

Discussion

This study demonstrates how well contemporary teaching strategies can improve language acquisition, especially when they incorporate technology, community learning, the flipped classroom model, and active teacher participation. When taken as a whole, these strategies move the emphasis from teacher-centered instruction to student-centered engagement, encouraging greater comprehension and long-term memory.

In language education, the flipped classroom model has shown especially promising results. Students are more prepared for in-class activities that prioritize speaking, teamwork, and problem-solving when instructional materials like readings or videos are given ahead of time. This approach enables teachers to concentrate on each student's needs during class time while encouraging students to take charge of their own development. Additionally, community learning is essential for developing cultural sensitivity and communication abilities. When working in groups, students gain from shared experiences and peer support, which lessens the anxiety that is frequently connected to language learning. Community-based activities that

foster meaningful language practice include discussion circles, peer evaluation, and group projects. Through flexible resource access, real-time communication, and interactive learning tools, technology improves both community-based and flipped learning approaches. Virtual classrooms, online discussion boards, and language learning applications accommodate a variety of learning preferences and offer chances for ongoing practice outside of the classroom. Even with the focus on student autonomy, teacher participation is still essential. Teachers facilitate conversations, keep tabs on students' progress, and offer tailored feedback. The success of contemporary approaches depends on their capacity to successfully integrate technology and establish inclusive learning environments.

Conclusion

In conclusion, flipped classrooms, cutting-edge technology, community-based learning, and active teacher participation all combine to provide language learners with a vibrant, engaging, and encouraging environment. Each element makes a distinct contribution: teachers are crucial in guiding and inspiring students, flipped classrooms let students interact with the content at their own pace, technology provides flexible and individualized access to resources, and community learning fosters confidence through teamwork. In addition to improving students' engagement and communication abilities, these contemporary teaching techniques can also make language instruction more inclusive, effective, and flexible to meet the needs of various learners when used carefully and strategically. In the end, this method greatly raises the standard and accessibility of language training.

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