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STRATEGIES OF TEACHING SPEAKING SKILLS THROUGH ACTIVITIES IN MULTIMEDIA
LANGUAGE LABORATORY FOR TECHNICAL STUDENTS

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ABSTRACT

Developing speaking skills depends on various aspects, among them teacher, students methods and materials play the key role. The present teaching methods and materials are designed based on the need at work place communication. Communicative English is needed to perform duties effectively at the work. It is a method of language teaching, which has scope for conducting tasks and activities in an interactive approach. Therefore by using modern technology in language teaching, it is simple and easy to develop language skills through activities. Language has four skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing) among these speaking skills has more importance because the present situation in industry demands oral skills for various purposes than others. Teaching oral skills through multimedia activities is the most needful in the fulfillment of the demand in the software industry. But there is gap between the teaching outcomes and the demands of the industry. Hence the researcher selects the topic to conduct research in order to find out the difficulties of teaching language skills with the special focus speaking skills in a refreshing perspective of using multimedia and title software. The researcher as a communication skills and soft skills trainer could observe a few complexities of learning of speaking skills of technical students and employees. By scanning of these problems a set of applicable tasks and activities will be administered. Though language laboratories are available in all the technical colleges it is difficult to conduct the sessions because, various aspects influence in the teaching. The research will study the difficulties of handling the practical sessions by analyzing proportionate activities, tasks and techniques to streamline the teaching of speaking skills.

Keywords: Teaching Speaking Skills, Multimedia Language Laboratory , Technical Students

Introduction

The present teaching methods and materials are designed based on the need at work place communication. Communicative English is needed to perform duties effectively at the work. It is a method of language teaching, which has scope for conducting tasks and activities in an interactive approach. Language has four skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing) among these speaking skills has more importance because the present situation in industry demands oral skills for various purposes than others. Teaching oral

skills through multimedia activities is the most needful in the fulfillment of the demand in the software industry. But there is gap between the teaching outcomes and the demands of the industry. Hence the researcher selects the topic to conduct research in order to find out the difficulties of teaching language skills with the special focus speaking skills in a refreshing perspective of using multimedia and title software.

Aim of the study

The proposed thesis examines the different circumstances in developing speaking skills at undergraduate technical level in addition to the investigation of the techniques of teaching speaking skills through multimedia language laboratories. The teacher is a facilitator who provides the learning situation whereas students need to participate actively in various activities in order to develop their proficiency in speaking. The main intention of the teaching and learning of speaking in this context is to clear obstacles at work place communication in future. The purpose of the practical section is to implement the theoretical section to be applied in real environment of professional communication.

Limitation of the Study

Development of speaking skills in teaching and learning process depends on number of factors that influences. Oral production, the process of communication, number of interlocutors, interaction patterns, an amount of information processed, time span, teacher, student, the conditions under which all these elements mutually interact are only a small part of what developing speaking skills makes. It is impossible to discuss all the factors related to this process in the thesis; therefore, an attention will be focused only on selected activities. There are several aspects that contribute to the development of students' speaking skills, one of them being, the researcher believes in the effective organization of communicative language teaching activities through multimedia laboratories for undergraduate technical students under JNTUH.

Research Methodology

This research aimed at using simulation in motivating students' speaking skill in English for specific purposes. It is a qualitative research and employs two data collection methods, namely: class observation and questionnaire. The results will show that the students are highly motivated and feel that they get enough practice as well as theory. Part of questionnaire administration the researcher selects a few colleges in Hyderabad and conduct the survey through teacher and students' questionnaires with the question on speaking skills elements, learning difficulties, laboratory software, facilitators' ability, pedagogical inputs and outputs in addition to posing some question on syllabi. The analysis of the survey data gives the scope for findings.

Multimedia Language Laboratory

The technology development has touched every part of human life. It also brought a lot of change in education. It is interesting to make use of innovative tools and bring it inside classrooms. Multimedia based learning materials become more important in education everywhere across the world for its powerful potentials to develop language education. The use of multimedia based learning materials in the classrooms was introduced in technical education around the beginning of the twenty first century in AP. This study will carry out in technical institutions to investigate the effectiveness of multimedia based learning materials on teaching speaking skills process and whether technical learners favor the use of multimedia materials over the traditional textbooks.

Scope of the Study

Many researches took place on teaching speaking skills so far and suggested recommendations for oral communication through activities and tasks in classroom or laboratories. Though they suggested recommendations still it has possibility for continuation of research on teaching speaking skills. The research will go in a task and activity based method through the application of software and general modes. The researcher interests to conduct research in developing speaking skill in a modern technique and adoptable approach for students and teachers at technical institutions.

The study mainly focuses on two areas,

- ✓ The first is teaching speaking skill by using multimedia language laboratory and software exercises.
- ✓ The second is facilitating the learners with resourceful methods and materials through task and activity based teaching

Needs Analysis

It is a known fact that teaching speaking skills is a significant factor in language teaching. Speaking skills play the significant position in expressing feelings, emotions, and ideas to others during the act of communication, second language teachers need to update the modern techniques in teaching by focusing the standard ones. Professional students can generally communicate well, having learnt all the basic structures of the language. However, they need to broaden their speaking skills to express themselves more clearly and appropriately in a wide range of situations.

CLT and CALT

Activities and tasks are suggestible language learning tools. CLT is a modern method to develop language acquisition by conduction of tasks and activities in a realistic approach. It is an approach which provides the facility to use tasks and activities in language teaching with the ultimate goal of teaching and learning language skills. Computer Aided Language Learning (CALL) also provides various activities and tasks on speaking. After reviewing academic opinions on this specifically focused matter, of which there are relatively few, the beginning of action research which includes applying tasks activities and games in the classes, observing other teachers' classes, and interviewing both teachers and learners so as to elicit students' reactions, feelings and the effectiveness of activities in speaking. Communicative approach and computer aided language learning provide tasks and activities where students need to play the central role in teaching and learning whereas teacher is a facilitator. The proposed research implements the CALL and CLT as tools of language teaching and learning.

Conclusion

The research deals with the basic needs of professional oral communication skills, the role of laboratory in learning and teaching of speaking skills for technical students. It also moves on to prove the laboratory sessions will lead the teaching of communication skills effectively for specific purposes.

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