

Original Article



Problems of Teaching Speaking Language in Students

Masoud Mahmoudi*

English Teacher, English Translation Studies Payam-e-Noor University of Boukan, Iran



Citation M. Mahmoudi, **Problems of Teaching Speaking Language in Students.** *Int. J. Adv. Stu. Hum. Soc. Sci.* 2024, 13 (2):151-157.

<https://doi.org/10.48309/IJASHSS.2024.418425.1161>



Article info:

Received: 2023-09-28

Accepted: 2023-11-06

ID: IJASHSS-2309-1161

Checked for Plagiarism: Yes

Language Editor Checked: Yes

Keywords:

Speaking; English Language; Word; Speaking Technique; Communication.

ABSTRACT

Most people consider the speaking skill to be the most important language skill; Because it is more visible than other skills and directly affects communication with others. Due to the importance of this skill, many English language educational institutions emphasize it more than other skills or even organize free discussion courses so that students can gain a better command of English conversation. Speaking skill is the most important way of your communication with others, without which you will face major problems in a foreign country. For this reason, many people who intend to immigrate to an English-speaking country try to improve their speaking skills more than anything else. In order to be able to express your thoughts correctly when speaking, you need to know a lot of words and phrases. In fact, learning new words is one of the basic abilities in any language that helps the learner to expand his knowledge and strengthen his skills. In other words, learning words and phrases has a direct effect on strengthening all four skills of reading, listening, speaking and writing. However, it is better to remember that memorizing a large amount of aimless vocabulary and necessary techniques will not only not help your language knowledge, but can also cause confusion.

Introduction

In the way of learning English, students face various challenges that make learning the language difficult for them at times. However, when learning a language, a series of behaviors and mistakes slow down the learning process for some people and make them think that they do not have the talent to learn or that they do not have the necessary efficiency to the extent that they study and practice [1].

Method

Search in Scopus, Google scholar, PubMed databases and by searching with keywords such as "Teaching Speaking", "Language in Students", "English Teacher", and "English student" to obtain articles related to the selected keywords [2]. Case report articles, editorials, and articles that were not published or only an introduction of them were available, as well as summaries of congresses and meetings that were in languages other than English, were ignored.

*Corresponding Author: Masoud Mahmoudi (masoud.mahmoudi1990@gmail.com)

Examining the Problems of Learning Speaking For Students

The Desire To Succeed And Learn In A Short Time: Surely you have heard a lot of such advertisements that some want to teach you English in a short period of time, for example 3 months or 6 months, and your training time will be less than traveling a single path reduce 2 years to 6 months and this issue is very tempting and if it happens it will be pleasant for everyone. But with a little thought and investigation, it can be realized that this type of education and reaching a goal in this period of time to learn another language, which is an acquisition process in addition to talent [1], cannot work for everyone and it can be mentioned it is impossible in 99% of cases and it should not be concluded that it is possible based on exceptions.

Concerning this issue, many people start learning the language, and after a period of time, when they do not get the necessary results, or they get tired during the training process, they avoid learning, or they feel that they have lost the ability to learn English. They do not have it and in the end they stop doing it altogether. As a result of this issue, it is very important to logically set an educational process and a reasonable time goal for yourself and start learning English based on that and continuously so that you can reach your desired result [2].

Learning Topics Regardless of Your English Language Level

The desire to learn and know new information and topics is a natural thing for an English language learner, and considering your access to the Internet and extensive information in this space, it can provide you with a lot of information. However, you just have to pay attention to the fact that learning new topics besides being attractive can have the risk of disturbing your focus on those topics that you should learn and master now. As a result, try to study and practice the topics that you are teaching well and master them and do not skip learning them in a superficial and easy way

because these basic and basic topics will help you to better understand more complex topics in the future and you can easily recognize the difference in the use of different grammars, words and phrases and use them correctly at the right time use [2].

Fear of Speaking

Many language learners who go to different language classes, even at intermediate levels, avoid speaking and will always avoid it. This will make you never be able to apply your knowledge and you will never master using it. Speaking is the key to success in language learning. Even if you are the best in all language skills, until you cannot speak, it can be mentioned that you do not know English, although without speaking skills, you will not be able to improve your other skills. As a result, the key to success in learning a language is speaking. There are several methods for this [3].

One of the ways that can encourage you to speak is to participate in the class. Of course, it cannot be mentioned that every language class can be useful for this matter. To choose a good class, it should be noted that the relevant teacher also gives importance to this task in the class and encourages the students to speak in the class. Participating in free discussion and conversation classes is also suitable for your choice to speak. You can also strengthen this skill at home with methods such as shadowing, mirroring, etc. which makes you use Practice the words and grammar you have learned and improve your speed [4].

Translation from Native Language

Initially, learning English may not be a problem and it will help you a little so that you can master the English language and the learning mechanism becomes clearer for you. But in the future, you should not continue this work and should refrain from translating the mother tongue and converting it into English. English, like other languages, has its own sentences and phrases and language structures, and if you want to speak English based on your

mother tongue. In fact, in many cases, you have spoken incorrectly and only managed to put a few English words together, but you have not made any meaningful sentences, and in some cases you may even make a sentence with an offensive meaning. As a result, try to learn English language like a child with the same rules and moods of English language so that you can easily use the phrases and structures of English language, and for this you should also note that speaking is one of the most important aspects that can help you in this matter. Therefore, it is emphasized again, do not forget to talk [5].

Practice, Continuous Study, and Review of the Material

To learn English, which is an acquired matter, it is very important to practice and repeat the material. Even the subjects that are easy for you and you master them. Because as you know, you have to learn new things as you progress along the learning path. As a result, if you do not have enough review and practice, the accumulation of material will be a big challenge for you, and it is recommended to study the material with a specific daily schedule, and with this, you will always deal with English and the material will become the so-called queen of your mind. Be sure that a lot of continuous practice will bring you to your goal sooner rather than amazing learning courses that ask you to teach the language with supernatural methods [6].

Moderation in Learning Materials and Not Focusing Only On Some Aspects of English Language

In learning the language, some students only seek to learn one of the language skills, which is usually conversation, if this belief and this work usually, it will cause them problems to completely learn English. Therefore, you should not focus on strengthening a skill and aspect just to learn. Whether you only learn words or only learn grammar or spend most of your time on speaking and ignore writing and reading. Therefore, prioritize based on your needs and try to learn all aspects of the English language

and be sure that you can achieve better and faster results in learning the English language [7].

Continuous English Language Training

Another problem of language learners and the mistakes they make while learning English is the time breaks they create during learning, and this causes them to learn the language with great difficulty. Because they almost forget the past materials and re-learning them and reading these materials to remind them again and fix the problems makes them feel tired of English language and stop learning. As a result, try as much as you can even if you dedicate a little time to learning so that your learning process is continuous. Learning can be very difficult if it is not accompanied by enjoyment. Learning English is not an exception to this and you should also enjoy learning the language. With methods and items that will bring you the joy of learning. Therefore, try to learn English based on your interests. For example, if you are into movies or series, take advantage of this topic to motivate you to read, practice and learn and double the pleasure of learning for you. Therefore, do not limit learning only to your textbook, and this may make education boring for you [8].

Being Purposeful in Speaking

Do not teach the language just because it is an international language and everyone should know it, although this issue alone is a very important and basic reason. However, it is better to have a personal and specific reason for training. This will motivate you to overcome these difficulties easily in cases where training becomes difficult for you.

Many language learners in the learning process will stop learning because they do not have a specific goal and only because of some general issues. Because the English language, with all its importance, has not become one of their important goals. One of the best methods and on the other hand the easiest method is this technique because you are embarrassed to speak loudly or have a conversation with

someone. To make English an integral part of your world, you need to be able to think in this language.

If you are one of those people who do not spend much time thinking during the night, do this before going to sleep. You can review the events of the day or think about your plans for tomorrow. You just have to try to think in English. After a short period, this will become a habit and will help you get more familiar with English language. It is also better to speak your thoughts out loud sometimes. Stand in front of the mirror and start talking to yourself. Do not be surprised! This method is a universal technique to improve speaking skills. Not all of us are aware of our body language or the way we express ourselves when we speak. By speaking in front of the mirror, you can become aware of your weaknesses and increase your confidence to speak English (Figure 1).

Discussion

The most important problem that hinders the progress of language knowledge is the lack of continuity in learning. If you continue, you can overcome all the problems of learning a foreign language, even if we have not chosen the right method for learning be less talented. We do not have good resources or our time is limited [9]. The issue of continuity in the self-learning method is much more important than learning the language in class. This is because simply attending class and moving forward with the language class schedule partially (I emphasize, partially) solves the problem of continuity [10].

According to research, using language teaching software and textbooks leads to failure in almost 100% of cases and does not lead to learning a second language; even the initial stages of learning are not completed and almost all language learners give up learning at the very initial stages. It is worth mentioning a number of researches: One of the research

projects conducted on the famous and popular self-learning software entitled: "Rosetta Stone" and "Tell Me More" shows that out of 322 people who used this software they prepared the tools, only 5 people passed the initial level and the rest left the learning half-finished [10]. Given that this software's consist of 5-10 different levels, it can be concluded that less than 2% of language learners use these software's (or similar software's) to learn the language. They finally pass the beginner level. In the future, maybe the remaining few will also stop learning. According to another research [11], language learners who learn a foreign language outside the classroom study only 16% of the first pages of language teaching textbooks, and then give up. The point is that by relying on textbooks and self-study software as your main sources of learning, you are pretty much guaranteeing your failure [12]. Concerning this disappointing statistic, one should not be surprised by the lack of success of language learners in learning, especially because most people turn to the self-learning method and neglect the importance of classroom language training. Maybe many times you have successfully passed the starting stage and started learning the language seriously, but you gave up in the middle of the work [13]. Maybe with the intention of starting again a few days later! You or others may blame you for having a weak will, but this problem is very pervasive and cannot be attributed to the weakness of your character and will. Perhaps the same issue has arisen for you regarding dieting and weight loss, quitting smoking, and other things [14]. Do you still want to put it down to the weakness of your will? The scientific opinion is that if you rely too much on your will, failure will be certain. Do not forget that the function of human will (except in very few cases and simple mechanical works) is only limited to "Starting" a difficult task and you should not rely on your will to continue the work [15].

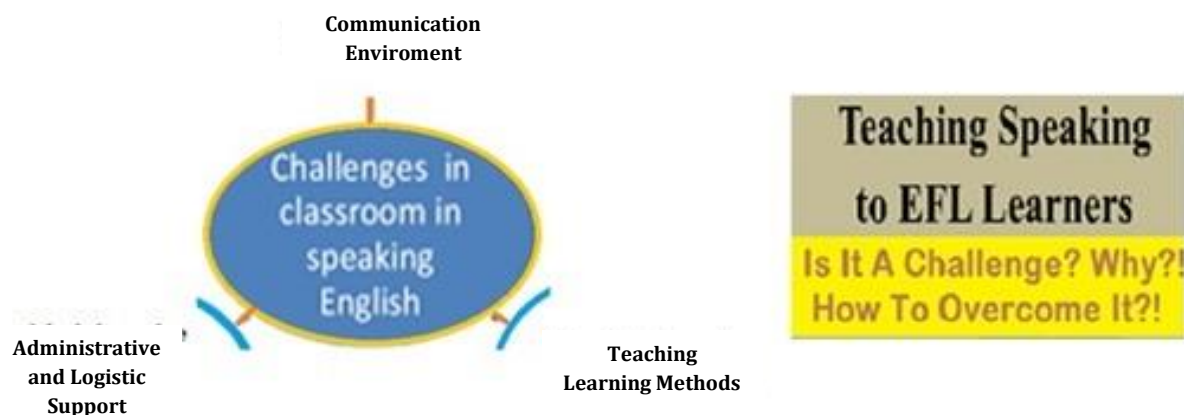


Figure 1. Problems of teaching speaking language in students

Forgetting Words: The Most Important Consequence of Not Repeating English Language

One of the problems of not repeating and continuing English language is the loss of your vocabulary. Vocabulary is very important when you are learning English. If words are not used intermittently and constantly, they will be erased from your mind. What should we do so that we do not forget English vocabulary? Our suggestion to you to remember the vocabulary is that you can use different games and methods to remember the vocabulary so that you do not forget the vocabulary in the long run. Another way to remember words is to prepare an English vocabulary book. See the article written in the same field [16]. You can learn five words every day, which becomes 35 words during the week, and by reviewing these 35 words in a week, you can record them in your long-term memory. If you do every week, not only will your vocabulary increase, but it will also make the word last longer in your mind.

Inability to Speak Fluently

The second problem of continuing and not repeating English is that you may not be able to speak fluently like on the first day. Conversation in English itself seems difficult. Read the article "Why is conversation in English so difficult?" It will help you. One of the problems of not repeating English is losing the ability to communicate effectively in English.

Most language learners think that if they learn a lot of grammar and vocabulary, there will be no problem for them to speak fluently in the long run. If this is a wrong thinking. Learning grammar and vocabulary will increase your linguistic knowledge, but not the power of your everyday conversations. Therefore, if you do not repeat conversations, you should definitely expect problems in your speaking fluency. Now, how can we improve our fluent speaking skills in English? We recommend that you watch a lot of movies in English. This will help you to hear English words out loud. Yes, that is the point. Reading aloud makes the words stay in your mind longer and you will remember the words more easily when speaking and more importantly it makes you gain self-confidence. Speaking out loud strengthens the physical part of speaking, i.e. the mouth, tongue, lips, etc. Talk more and work on the correct pronunciation of words [17].

Not Communicating With English Speakers

One of the other consequences is the lack of continuity and repetition of language learning and lack of communication with English speakers. The less you communicate with English speaking people or do not repeat. It makes you forget English easily. However, there are many ways that help you communicate with English speaking people. You can communicate with many people on social networks or different sites [18].

Conclusion

The most common mistakes in speaking in front of different people are: Being nervous, not being prepared beforehand, and presenting too much. People often get anxious when speaking in front of a crowd. This is why practicing confidence and preparing for a speech is so important. Most people think they are fluent enough and do not need to prepare for their speech. If you must, before each speech, present write important points, do this in advance and prepare for it. Otherwise, your message may not be clearly conveyed to the audience during the speech and you may have problems in the interaction. The last one is over-provisioning which will make the audience tired and they may no longer want to listen to your speech. To improve your speaking skills, you need to increase your vocabulary and learn the correct pronunciation of words. You should also be able to learn new words in text or sentence format. The most important issue in speaking is self-confidence. If you have good self-confidence, you can speak well and have shorter pauses while speaking. Accordingly, it is recommended to become a member of social groups and communicate with English-speaking people. You can also visit places that have forums where people chat in English. One of the effective techniques is "Speech Shadowing". If we want to introduce this technique briefly, we should say that it is related to imitation. In this method, you listen to an English speaking person, and then repeat the sentences exactly like him. Another technique is self-talk. To implement this technique, just speak English to yourself out loud. You can even get a book and read a few pages out loud. Another way is to think in English. If you think about what you are going to say in English before you say it, you will spend less time constructing sentences or responding to everyday conversations because you do not need to translate. To begin with, it is better to tell your daily diary in English and think about it in English first. Another way is to tell a story. By doing this, you are retelling other people's line of thinking in your own words.

ORCID

Masoud Mahmoudi

<https://orcid.org/0009-0001-4518-2237>

Reference

- [1]. J. Lidz, J. Musolino, *Cognition*, **2002**, *84*, 113-154. [[Crossref](#)], [[Google Scholar](#)], [[Publisher](#)]
- [2]. K. Miller, C. Schmitt, *In Proceedings of the Sixth Conference on the Acquisition of Spanish and Portuguese as First and Second Languages*, **2003**. [[Google Scholar](#)], [[Publisher](#)]
- [3]. M. Mithun, *Language*, **1984**, *60*, 847-894. [[Crossref](#)], [[Google Scholar](#)], [[Publisher](#)]
- [4]. J. Musolino, *University of Maryland, College Park*, **1998**. [[Google Scholar](#)], [[Publisher](#)]
- [5]. M. Zbuzant, *Eurasian Journal of Chemical, Medicinal and Petroleum Research*, **2022**, *1*, 10-19. [[Google Scholar](#)], [[Publisher](#)]
- [6]. K. Lo Han, *Eurasian Journal of Chemical, Medicinal and Petroleum Research*, **2022**, *1*, 64-70. [[Crossref](#)], [[Google Scholar](#)], [[Publisher](#)]
- [7]. U. Özge, *Ph.D. Dissertation, Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Türkiye*, **2010**. [[Google Scholar](#)], [[Publisher](#)]
- [8]. B.z. Öztürk, *Case, Referentiality and Phrase Structure*, **2005**, 1-280. [[Google Scholar](#)], [[Publisher](#)]
- [9]. J.C. Schaeffer, *University of California, Los Angeles*, **1997**. [[Google Scholar](#)], [[Publisher](#)]
- [10]. C. Schroeder, *Otto Harrassowitz Verlag*, **1999**, *40*. [[Google Scholar](#)], [[Publisher](#)]
- [11]. E. Seidel, *In Proceedings of the 14th Workshop on Altaic Formal Linguistics (WAFL14). MIT Working Papers in Linguistics*, **2019**, *90*, 277-287. [[Google Scholar](#)], [[Publisher](#)]
- [12]. M. Abbasi, A. Nakhostin, F. Namdar, N. Chiniforush, M.H. Tabatabaei, *Journal of Lasers in Medical Sciences*, **2018**, *9*, 82. [[Crossref](#)], [[Google Scholar](#)], [[Publisher](#)]
- [13]. L.B. Swift, *(No Title)*, **1963**. [[Google Scholar](#)], [[Publisher](#)]
- [14]. E. Erguvan, K. Zimmer, *Journal*, **1994**, *20*, 547-552. [[Crossref](#)], [[Google Scholar](#)], [[Publisher](#)]
- [15]. F. Rebut, *Eurasian Journal of Chemical, Medicinal and Petroleum Research*, **2022**, *1*, 58-63. [[Crossref](#)], [[Google Scholar](#)], [[Publisher](#)]

- [16]. a) M. Yavari, S.E. Hassanpour, H.A. Otaghvar, H.A. Abdolrazaghi, A.R. Farhoud, *Archives of Bone and Joint Surgery*, **2019**, 7, 258. [\[Google Scholar\]](#), [\[Publisher\]](#) b) S. Momeni, F. Geravandi, A. khosravi, *Journal of Law and Political Studies*, **2021**, 1, 1-14. [\[Crossref\]](#), [\[Publisher\]](#)
- [17]. a) K. Von Heusinger, J. Kornfilt, *Turkic Languages*, **2005**, 9, 44. [\[Google Scholar\]](#), [\[Publisher\]](#) b) S. Momeni, *Journal of Law and Political Studies*, **2022**, 2, 85-93. [\[Crossref\]](#), [\[Publisher\]](#) c) I. Madaniyan, *Journal of Law and Political Studies*, **2022**, 2, 260-276. [\[Crossref\]](#), [\[Publisher\]](#)
- [18]. L. Zidani-Eroglu, *The University of Wisconsin-Madison*, **1997**. [\[Google Scholar\]](#), [\[Publisher\]](#)