

TEACHING OF ENGLISH DURING THE PANDEMIC AT DIFFERENT LEVELS OF EDUCATION

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Abstract:

This study aims at the level of attainment of learning of English during the pandemic period of Covid19. As we all know the way of teaching changed drastically during the pandemic, the real classrooms got changed into virtual classrooms. Hence at this point of time it is necessary to know to what extent students attained the knowledge of English. And we know that English is an important part of syllabus at the level of school, graduation of English as well as post-graduation of English

Keywords: *English Language Learning, Technology, Education*

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Now that online teachings are coming to a close in many of the states of India it would be apt to take a reflexive look at the online teaching at different levels. It could be, quantitative as well as qualitative. Tools which can be used for a qualitative study and data collection can be as follows,

1. Preparation of Check – list to know the extent to which the selected syllabus is completed.
2. Questionnaire to know the attitude of students towards the new way of learning.
3. Rating scale through which the above two variables will be measured and an average score will be found out

For the accuracy and convenience of the study we may restrict the syllabus to a certain amount at different levels of education in English as a subject. Hence the whole picture will be held intact in the ‘English frame’. Here I propose to give a qualitative analysis based on subjective experience.

Literary Review:

His current topic of research is an offshoot of reading of the Indian research reservoir, shodhganga added to my knowledge of the current situation of our country, sailing through the pandemic. I have also done a project work on learning styles preferred by students, in my Bachelors of Education as part of my syllabus which is quite similar to this study where I was using the same tools of research.

Play of Technology:

There are modern teaching aids used by teachers for teaching but there are some pros and cons of each of the teaching aids that needs to be discussed for a proper usage and function at the time calls for it. Technology came handy during the need of time, especially in the field of education. We had a lot of software designed for taking classes, to the advantage of students as well as teachers. For instance we had Google classroom, zoom etc. well the long distance classrooms does have its negatives too. The capturing and persistence of students' attention span, the anti-social line because of the inability of classroom communication . Availability of the internet as well as smart phones are still a

matter of squandering for many in our country.

School level:

At the school level how well this virtual learning can be successful is kind of ambiguous. Some students are in support of virtual learning but they themselves say it kind of misses the social element. As it is their sprouting age the classroom is actually their micro society from where they should learn to be social, cultural and emotional as well. Often teachers are of the opinion that though the class timing is flexible they cannot totally look into the full development of their students because of the lack of physical presence. Hence in virtual education parents have a greater role to play. The syllabus can be pretty much covered because English is one of the subjects which can be covered in lectures but what we miss here will be group discussions in group activities.

Level of Graduation:

At graduation we have students specialising in the subject English. It was good if the students got to know the subject directly from the teacher in an offline way but the online mode was taken on by students pretty well. But there were a few instances where students misused the internet and the technology. Above all, the addiction of youngsters to their phones made some parents worry about their future. Besides, the new way of teaching had so much to do with the health of students was a subject of worry for every age group. The campus life is missing in this new learning method. There is a fear of the youth becoming anti-social and being more addicted to virtual games.

Post-graduation Period:

Even tougher.. is what the memory of most postgraduate students say. Because we have to gain a super strong base of English literature in the post-graduation stage so that it can come at their advantage when going for a lot of competitive exams like NET, SET etc. after the course. In online education however students are often at the opinion that the concepts are not getting so clear compared to offline classes.

Summing Up:

After this crisis, the Indian government is now seriously looking into including online education as a mode of education like the offline. As we all know that there are platforms like Study Webs of Active learning for Young Aspiring Minds (SWAYAM), Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC), SWAYAM PRABHA etc. already run by the government, hence they are very much aware of the shortcomings of the same, whether it's for the school, graduation or post-graduation. But through this analysis we might understand that an integrated way of learning can bear much fruit. Rather than isolation from technology, running along with technology will help us win the race of life. A few things can be done by the government, which they already have but should continue doing is getting the teachers technology friendly by helping them with some in-service classes. Monetary help to students as well as teachers for buying the equipment for teaching-learning.

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