“Impact of Changing Factors in English Learning on Students and Teenagers by several new schemes introduced by CBSE”

Aman Sharma¹, Harpreet Kaur¹.
¹Lingaya’s University, Student (Mech.), Faridabad, Haryana, INDIA
²Lingaya’s University, Student (C.S), Faridabad, Haryana (India)

Abstract: With the changing time came revolutionary changes in the thinking, choices and priorities of men. People of today are not what they used to be a decade ago. We people are involved in a rat race of grabbing, power, accumulation, wealth and pursuing material comforts by neglecting the need of value education among children and teenagers. The tremendously increasing competition in today’s world is forcing every one of us to develop creativity and improve thinking and analytical skills at an early stage during grass root levels. Hence, it is quite necessary to develop these skills so that one can easily compete the challenging world and can survive easily even in the hard times and this can only be possible if we start preparing from the very initial. In accession to the conditions mentioned above, CBSE (at school level) took certain initiatives and introduced some schemes which in turn proved useful and fruitful and germinated thinking grey cells in the young minds, focusing on developing English speaking and Listening skills at Personal and Professional level. These developments brought a major change in the teaching style and increased the standards beyond limits.

I. Introduction

As per concerned with the downfall in the performance of several average students in English especially in India is tried to be eliminated by introducing several basic factors and implementing them at various levels which not only improved the existing conditions but also transformed teenagers into good speakers and orators.

Unlike other schemes which are followed since 1994 in English Teaching, developments which took place an year ago are quite amazing and left a great changing positive impact on students especially teenagers. Now, the time has gone when people learned question answers, read chapters to score well and flourish in Annual results. Although, doing this will definitely provide ample opportunities to score good but not even a penny to use them in day to day life.

In this tremendously increasing competitive world it is very much necessary for every human being to accept the change and of course to inculcate them. Especially the changes been made to the language subjects at grass root levels. For more than ten years CBSE was following the same scheme for English teaching which in turn demonstrated no change in the speaking as well as listening skills of a student. Not only this, it created disinterest and feeling to neglect the subject by teenagers.

So as to resolve the problem and find a solution to it CBSE gave exemplary methods which not only improved the speaking skills but also gave rise to thinking and analytical skills leading to generate creative and innovative ideas among them.

II. Problems Undertaken

2.1) Extreme level of expectations by Parents:
“Rome was not built in a Day” It took hardship and labor of many years and is a fruitful result of extreme patience. Similarly learning anything new is quite difficult and one needs patience to get succeed. But so far concerned with the language English, parents of today are taking it in a wrong direction. Expecting good results in speaking is genuine but expecting fluency in speaking at a very early stage of life is nearly impossible to achieve. Parents of today expect a lot from their children due to which a child does not get opportunity to even get thorough with the basics of the language because of being in a hurry of grasping it too quickly. Further, it leads to hesitation, stage fear and many other things which will become an obstacle in speaking with confidence in Public. Parents must allow their child to learn and play with the language, then only he can get through the way of adapting it properly. Parents must try to be a bit co-operative and must allow their child to explore the hidden treasure of the Language. Later, he will automatically develop the fluency as he will be comfortable with the language.

2.2) Fear of Speaking publically and stage fear:
It has been noted that most of the students especially of the age group 10-15 years develop stage fear and carry this fear till their last breath. This problem deserves a greater concern and to be resolved soon. For this...
one of the solution could be participating in as many competitions as one could which leads to the elimination of stage fear and develops a confidence among children to come up and speak freely and gives them courage to put up their views strongly and support them. Later; this will help them to develop a sound knowledge of working in any organization and will also help them to come up with flying colors.

2.3) Lack of Opportunities:

In India, basically we people focus on learning to be done in written form. Examinations are conducted in writing and students are judged on the same basis. Although to speak clearly one must get a chance to speak and must be judged on the same. If marks are been provided for this then definitely most of the students who do not want to, will speak and try to get the command over language. Also, motivation by teachers and parents can do the work and will be a cherry on the cake.

III. Developments done in the Field

3.1) Introducing ASL (Assessment of speaking and listening) in Schools by CBSE:

Introducing such a scheme, CBSE openly gave a platform to students to come up and explore the hidden treasure of Language with a bonus of scoring good marks as the marks scored in this test will be included in the total score which basically gives them an edge over others. A student who tries to perform well can easily score full and can increase the level of marks scored. Central Board of Secondary Education involved this exemplary scheme as a major and compulsory portion in Education which enables the students to find themselves in a room with all its windows open to the outside world. An openness to accept the change is the mindset of following this scheme which not only improves the Speaking skills but also improves the Listening one. Involving topics related to their syllabus for judgment in this test worked as a cherry on the cake. Involvement of several activities, to boost up the self-confidence, motivation and improved speaking skills are the things achieved by implementing this Scheme. On the basis of a survey conducted among the students of class IX of various schools regarding the implementation of ASL scheme was splendid. On a simple evaluation views of the students were recorded which are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S no.</th>
<th>Category of choice regarding ASL Scheme by CBSE</th>
<th>Rating in Percentage by students of IX standard</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1)</td>
<td>Not Worth</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2)</td>
<td>Average</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3)</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4)</td>
<td>Effective</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The views of the students were amazing and 9 out of every 10 student appreciated the efforts made by CBSE to enhance and boost up the Speaking level of students at various levels. Some of the views of the students are mentioned as under:

“It is a golden opportunity for those who want to boost up their scores and grades”- Samridhi

“ASL is simply an impressive decision as one can easily get grades for speaking which also adds to one’s professional portfolio- Samanway

“It provides a platform to enhance our personality and helps in gaining confidence- Sherai

“ASL is a scheme which helps me in polishing my speaking skills and its JAM session increases my creativity of mind and soul”- Swarnima

Views of the students clearly depict the impact of ASL scheme on students personally as well as professionally.

3.2) Introducing Novel as a part of Syllabus:

Second major step which was taken by CBSE to improve the thinking style of students was to introduce NOVEL as a major portion of syllabus and further including it in Examinations. The purpose was served when students started taking interest in learning by reading. It is quite obvious that reading novel gives extra knowledge of various other developments done in the field by different Authors and introduces students to...
various new terms developed in the same. This not only helps students to go through different new terms but also to develop a sense of interest among them. Apart from Stories involved in NCERT it gives them a chance to tackle different new stories and explore the outside world.

Making it compulsory enhances the habit of Reading something new, which not only creates interest among them but also gives them a platform to get in touch with the latest writing styles of different authors.

3.3) Introducing PSA (Problem Solving Assessment) as an Exam:

Although, students of different classes come across various examinations during their entire school life but as a matter of fact these examinations are subjective and are books based exams. As far as we are concerned with the overall development of a child by making them use their grey cells of mind the target cannot be achieved until or unless students face something challenging, something which forces them to use the sleeping part of their mind. Keeping this factor in mind, CBSE introduced PSA exam which give students the sound knowledge of handling several tricky problems and also to solve them correctly. For this schools provide handbooks, notes and other material (which is more than sufficient to prepare for the exam). The main aim is to develop Analytical thinking skills among students and prepare them well so that they can easily compete with the world later after completing their schooling. Not only this, it gives them a professional approach and tests their reactions on various situations. This paper basically includes (English, Mathematics, Science, General Knowledge and Aptitude based questions). This exam gives a chance to every student to tackle Technical English and develop a sound knowledge of Grammar and other Business skills.

“I really enjoy solving brainstorming questions of all subjects at once”- Abhay

3.4) Teaching English using creative methods:

Teaching is nowadays done by using various creative visualizations popularly known as SMART Classes which enhances interest among students and bounds them to get attached with their studies. So far it has been observed that Regular Assignments, Test series, Extra notes and other necessary data is been provided to them at no cost. This creates a sense of excitement among students to study in a broader way. English teaching using certain stories and examples is a totally different and unbelievable approach to achieve good and clear knowledge of English as a Language and as a tool in Professional life. Chapters of NCERT are demonstrated in a creative way with the help of images and pictures which adds on to the taste of understanding. It helps in making the concepts and basics more clearly in a broader way where student can easily understand the terms related with the help of certain video clips, images and pictures including caricatures which creates interest among them. The steps taken by CBSE are appreciable and can be considered as a splendid approach to raise the platform a bit higher, providing students a chance to grow while they learn with the ultimate of strength to compete the challenging world waiting outside.

References

[1]. Miglani Seema, Goyal Shikha(2013),English for Professionals: A book of communication skills in English