

IMPROVING ENGLISH SPEAKING SKILL FOR INTERMEDIATE
LEVEL OF LEARNERS

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Abstract :

The article provides information about the methods and skills of teaching English, how to boost English speaking. The most important aspect of learning English is speaking skills. If you do not know how to learn English or if you are looking for advice on how to improve your speaking skills in English, there are many ways and means. And many advices to improve speaking skills are given in this article.

Key words : *methods, skills, conversation, tongue twister, new friends.*

Introduction : English is the most widely studied language in the world – about 20 % of the world speaks English and this phenomenon has led to the study of English at an early stage in many countries where English is not spoken. Knowing how to speak English can open up new opportunities in life, for example, from traveling to communicating with more people and even finding a good job. Learning English involves four language skills that are fundamental to speaking and understanding the language. These are the four abilities, namely, listening, writing, reading and also speaking. Listening and reading skills are regarded as receptive skills while speaking and writing skills are considered to be productive skills¹ The four skills are all important. However, of all the four skills, speaking seems intuitively the most important² In other words, we use these skills to understand our world through listening and reading and to express our

¹ Jeremy Harmer 1989 : 16

² Penny Ur 1996:120.



feelings, needs and wants through speaking and writing. One of the manifestations of communicative skill is speaking. According to Hughes (1989:101) as quoted by Yulia (2005:179)³, speaking is an interactive process in which an individual alternatively takes the role of speaker and listener.

Analysis and results : Speaking is an important skill in learning language. But most language learners have difficulties in the speaking part, which means many are hesitant to speak English or are afraid of making mistakes. In order to speak like a native speaker, you must always be confident and not shy about making mistakes and there are ten top tips that help us speak freely.

Speak, speak, speak!

The more you practice the better and more confident you will become in your pronunciation and vocabulary. Remember, speaking skill is like learning a musical instrument – the only way you can get good is to actually do it!

Use technology

You know that modern devices are widely used by people. And these technologies help us learn English faster. Let's take the telephone as an example. A smartphone can be a powerful tool for learning languages. Use it to record yourself speaking then listen back to see how your English sounds to other people and it helps us practice more and learn new words.

Listen

Listen to English news and songs to hear the pronunciation of words. This way you can also learn new words and phrases. The more listen, the more learn! To practice your pronunciation, try to copy what you hear and find out which words in the sentence are stressed.

Learn a new word every day

Choose a word you would like to work on and every day use practice it in different sentences.

³ Hughes 1989:101 as quoted by Yulia(2005:179)³



Watch films

Watch films and pay attention to pronunciation and make a note of all the new words you learn. Imitate the actors and have fun with it.

Read out loud

Read the newspaper or a magazine out to yourself.

Make friends

Make friends with English speakers and compare notes. Talk about things that you have learnt and exchange ideas.

Have a debate

Debate all the topics that interest you with friends in English. Try to use the words you have memorized and listen to the other arguments carefully.

Do interesting activities in English

Whatever you like to do, make sure you do it and communicate in English. Using English to talk about the things you love will make practicing a positive experience.

Use a dictionary

Online dictionaries often have audio examples so you can check your pronunciation, and there are plenty of great dictionary apps that you can take with your smartphone anywhere.

Conclusions and suggestions

English is a fascinating language. Each tip of speaking skills reflects a short way to achieve the goal and serves to increase the quality of education. Being able to use each strategy in its place and effectively is a part of pedagogical skills.

Reference

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