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ACTIVITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT OF LEARNERS` PRONUNCIATION FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

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Abstract

This article provides a thorough instruction on exercises designed to improve primary school pupils' pronunciation abilities. Because pronunciation affects comprehension and effective communication, pronunciation is an important part of learning a language. This manual presents a wide variety of captivating and participatory exercises that have been thoughtfully crafted to address prevalent pronunciation difficulties encountered by students. Teachers can help elementary-level pupils improve precise and fluent speech by putting these activities into practice.

Key words

Primary school students, elementary-level students, interactive activities, speech, pronunciation, communication skills, language learning, comprehension.

Introduction

Pronunciation is a critical component of language learning and communication development for learners. Building a solid foundation in pronunciation is important for primary school pupils because it will help them communicate effectively during and after their formative years. Furthermore, it can be quite difficult to teach English to students in schools between the ages of 7 and 11.

First of all, teachers have to provide everything when there are no suitable activities. The teacher is the one who should establish the goals, select the instructional strategies and resources, and select the best form of assessment. Second, because of the typical characteristics of the children, teaching English in primary schools is genuinely different from teaching it at higher levels. Young learners are believed to be unable to sit still for more than ten to fifteen minutes at a time. Educating children therefore needs a great deal of creativity. For younger children, particularly those in primary school, learning English might present some challenges.

Pronunciation is another issue that students face because English is a foreign language and they have trouble pronouncing English words. Even though their spelling and pronunciation vary occasionally, they still guess the words. Typically, they read the words using the alphabet (or letters alone). The majority of young students are thought to be able to read English by the time they are five to seven years old, but they acquire the alphabet by copying their teachers.

Plus, the absence of linguistic input is the final issue. Still, the majority of pupils are passive. They won't be interested in the learning process if the activities are done in a monotonous manner. They solely complete the LKS activities or instructions as their only learning activity in class. They don't

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have enough experience learning English. They should participate actively in the learning process by completing the exercises. It indicates that they are too bored to participate in the class activity because of the boring activity, which leads to their becoming boisterous. This paper looks at a variety of activities intended to help students pronounce words correctly in a kindergarten context and advance their language development as a whole.

Literature review

Since accurate pronunciation is essential to effective communication, mastering it is a prerequisite for language learning. This is especially important for younger students, as the social and academic performance of the learner can be significantly impacted by the early acquisition of precise pronunciation. This article review looks at the importance of teaching pupils how to pronounce words correctly and provides a range of exercises that can be used to help them become more proficient in phonetics, phonology, and oral communication. Additionally, effective communication with young learners and language acquisition depend on early pronunciation development. Studies show that a child's chances of succeeding in reading, writing, and speaking increase with early learning of precise pronunciation skills (Gillon, 2018). Additionally, as it builds confidence in their ability to communicate successfully, better pronunciation can assist children's social development (Bahrani & Rahimi, 2016). Furthermore, one of the primary advantages of pronunciation development for kindergarten pupils is the development of phonemic awareness. Phonemic awareness is the capacity to recognize and manipulate specific sounds found inside words (Treiman & Kessler, 2014). By gaining phonemic awareness, children can learn to distinguish between different sounds and understand how they relate to letters and words. This skill is particularly important for reading and writing since it helps children understand word meanings and spelling patterns (Gillon, 2018). For kindergarten students, pronunciation development is very important since it can support the development of their oral communication abilities. Effective oral communication involves more than just speaking well; it also involves understanding others and knowing how to respond to them (Bahrani & Rahimi, 2016). Proper word pronunciation can help children communicate with peers and teachers more successfully, which will help them excel in school and in social situations. Teachers can employ a variety of exercises to help kindergarten students pronounce words correctly. These exercises can help to improve oral communication abilities, foster language acquisition, and increase phonemic awareness. Among the most successful activities are:

1. Phonemic awareness exercises: These involve teaching children how to recognise and work with particular sounds in words. Playing games, sorting sounds, and combining words are ways to increase phonemic awareness. In 2014, Treiman and Kessler.

2. Tongue Twisters: Words or sounds that sound alike but are difficult to speak together make up phrases that are referred to as tongue twisters. Tongue twisters help kids articulate difficult sounds and words, which helps with their pronunciation development. Gillon (2018).

3. Songs and Chants: Songs and chants are an entertaining and engaging way for kids to practise speaking and are an excellent way to improve pronunciation. By chanting and singing, kids can also get better at intonation and rhythm. Rahimi and Bahrani (2016).

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4. Storytelling: Storytelling is a great way to help kids with their pronunciation since it allows them to practise speaking in an interesting and natural setting. Furthermore, narrating stories to children enhances their language and cognitive skills. In 2014, Treiman and Kessler.

Conclusion

In short, it is critical for primary school pupils' language development and future communication success to include exercises that enhance pronunciation. In order to help students, improve their pronunciation, teachers can provide a welcoming and stimulating learning atmosphere. It is possible to improve their oral communication skills and improve their ability to pronounce sounds appropriately by using a variety of approaches, including tongue twisters, phonics exercises, and pronunciation drills. Multimedia materials and technology integration may also provide the learning process a dynamic touch. Pronunciation skills can also be improved by fostering an open, dynamic classroom atmosphere that promotes oral presentations and peer criticism. Early pronunciation instruction helps educators provide kids the skills they need to communicate effectively and clearly in foreign language

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