Importance of Day to Day Communication in English

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Abstract

English is one of the most spoken languages around the world and India has the second largest English speaking population in the world after the United States of America. Around 125 million people in India speak in English. Out of the 7.5 billion people in this planet, 1.5 billion people speak English, that is 20% of the world. In this day and age, globalisation is spreading at a drastic speed, where businesses are operating at an international scale, English has become the main mode of communication and interaction. English has become an integral part of our educational, professional, and personal life. Everyone around the world understands the importance of English in current economic condition. Especially in India, which is the home to many different languages and dialects, English has become the basic mode of communication among different language speaking groups of people. Most importantly, the best way to learn something is my day to day practice and application and that is why, English has a great deal of importance in day to day communication.

Keywords: Communication, English, day, India, speaking, education, language.
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Introduction

English is known as a key to better education and employment opportunities. English language brings the entire world closer and gives us a medium to understand each other and different views. English is mostly accepted as the second language in almost all the countries where it is not the first language. To acquire simple language for day-to-day communication is the main aim of learning English which is internationally accepted for interaction.

To understand the importance of day-to-day communication in English, we must first understand the importance of communication and also English.

First, effective communication in profession is important for the development of an organisation. It helps the managers to perform the basic operations and skills of management—Planning, Organizing, Motivating, and Controlling. Communication skill written as well as oral is the basis of any professional activity. Communication maintains motivation and helps the employer to know how a job is being performed and to improve performance. Communication is our main source of information and criticism. In workplace, no one can work in isolation, so communication is the only solution.

Communication helps in controlling order as well as understanding orders and job. A person, who is very efficient at their job, will surely fail, if they lack communication skill. This is the reason, why in job interviews, a person’s communication skill is given as much importance as their educational qualification and other achievements. Communication is the only way we can survive in any professional field we choose.
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Second, communication in personal life of a person is the very foundation of their existence. Communication is fundamental to the existence and survival of humans as well as animals. Human beings are social creatures and communication is the only way to have a social life. We cannot survive in isolation; we would go insane without human interaction and communication. No matter where we go or what we do we need communication.

Now, let us understand the importance of English. As stated previously, English is one of the most spoken languages around the world and India has the second largest English speaking population in the world. Around 10% of India speak English that is, 125 million people. Out of the 7.5 billion people in this planet, 1.5 billion people speak English, that is 20% of the world. With this kind of statistics the importance of English becomes very obvious and evident. Out of 195 countries, 50 countries have English as their native language and there are 55 sovereign states and 27 non-sovereign entities where English is an official language. Being able to speak English is not just about being able to communicate with native English speakers, it is the most common second language in the world. English helps us to overcome a language barrier by giving us a common language. The British Council has stated that by the year 2020 2 billion people in the world will be studying English. Learning English is important as it enables us to communicate easily with most people around the globe. Especially in a multi-linguistic country like India, English has great importance in terms of providing a common language, we can all communicate in, no matter where we are from. Business language is dominated by English and it has become almost a necessity for people to speak English if they are to enter a workforce, especially if it is international. Research from all over the world shows that countries with different official languages most often conduct communication in English and many international and national companies of India expect employees to be fluent in English. Airbus, Daimler-Chrysler, Fast Retailing, Nokia, Renault,
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Samsung, SAP, Technicolor, and Microsoft in Beijing, are global companies which have made English mandatory as their official corporate language. The importance of learning English in this day and age of globalisation is immense.

English is the language of the internet. Around 565 million people use the internet every day, and an estimated 52 percent of the world’s most visited websites are displayed in English.

India is growing in technological terms at an unprecedented rate. Nowadays almost everyone has internet and English makes them equipped to use almost fifty percent of the internet. India is emerging as one of the largest global markets for the internet. By 2021, there will be about 635.8 million internet users in India. About 26 percent of the Indian population accessed the internet in 2015. With so many people being on the internet English is the common language they access most of their information.

Many of the world’s top films, books and music are published and produced in English. Therefore, English gives access to a great amount of entertainment and provides greater cultural understanding. Speaking in English makes sure, we do not have to rely on subtitles and translations to enjoy books, songs, films and TV shows. Moreover, a lot of books, songs and TV shows lose their sense of humour and essence when translated in another language.

The Nobel Prize in Literature 1913 was awarded to Rabindranath Tagore for Gitanjali. Anyone who has read the original and the translated version, and has their mother tongue as Bengali, would say that they prefer the original.

Research shows that learning a new language changes the brain structure and impacts the parts of the brain that are responsible for memory, conscious thought and more. Learning a new language can make the brain stronger and more versatile, improving the way we think. Research also shows that bilingualism can keep the brain healthy when we grow old and helps with memory and concentration. So, if we have to learn a new language, what is better
than English? English will help us throughout our life, both professional as well as personal. English gives a common language to bring different kinds of people together. It is highly important in education as a lot of scientists, economists, historians, etc. are from English speaking background, so understanding English opens our source of education to a large extent.

Now that the understanding of the importance of English and Communication is clear, it must be understood why day to day communication in English is important.

Hindi is the official language of India but English is extremely important especially for a job in India. But, these two languages are very different. Hindi and English belong to the Indo-European language family, but have very different origins. English is of the Germanic language family, which could be traced to as far back as the Anglo-Saxon Kingdom in England. The Hindi Language can be traced back to the Khariboli dialect. Hindi has a lot of Sanskrit influence while English has that from Latin.

The structure of sentence is very different in these two languages. So, a person whose mother tongue is Hindi or any other Indian language for that matter might face a lot of difficulties, if they have to learn English all of a sudden. The structure of speech of English and Indian Languages is so different, that they often find it very hard to change. In the Indian system of English education, it is often seen that English is taught by translation, which is not the ideal way to learn a foreign language. Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing are the four language skills, which must be taught in the mentioned order, whilst learning a new language.

But, the Indian system of education, does not follow this order at all, they follow: Reading, Writing, Listening, Speaking, which has been proven to be not the most effective and efficient method.

The basic language skill, that is, listening can be acquired only by day to day communication
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in English. We can truly learn English, only when we use it for daily communication. Daily communication in English will help us to identify our mistakes and correct it in the process. It will make us fluent and make the foreign language, not so foreign. It will increase our confidence and prepare us for our professional life. It will also help us to work on speech anxiety and any form of hesitation that we might have had. English is the most common communication barrier faced by students and day to day communication can go a long way to improve that scenario. A person who practises daily communication in English can convey what they need and express their opinion soundly whenever required. This can never be achieved in a single day but day to day work is needed much like any other skill aquirement requires.

Language that we use for communication is very important, in every walk of life. If we don’t have an effective language, the job that we take up to perform becomes tedious and not up to the mark.

Among all the modern languages, English is claimed to be the most important language. It is because in all international communications English is mandatory. English is essential and crucial for international understanding.

The Indian society overall has a very positive outlook towards English being used nationally for day to day communication. As of now, there appears to be no arguments regarding the importance of English and its need for daily usage. English makes us part of the international world and its daily usage enhances that opportunity. Our media and newspaper companies also, use English as a means of communication to its readers and viewers on a daily basis. It has been used for inter state communication and interaction, both before and after independence of India. The impact of English is increasing with the passage of time. English is the backbone of daily communication for engineers, doctors and teachers who are considered \

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one of the integral parts of the society. The most ambitious young men and women are realising the importance of English and using it for daily communication. And the first and foremost condition of success in any field has now become through effective communication which why English is used. Daily usage of English gives us dependence and faith in ourselves. English speakers are also expected to maintain the poise that they maintain while speaking their own mother tongue. English gives young and talented minds to express and showcase their talent and views in an international platform. Day to day communication in English ensures one is able to deal with customers and clients, explaining policies and procedures, conducting meeting, delivering presentations, entertaining foreign clients, giving orders, responding to customer complaints and taking orders, etc.

Conclusion

The increasing popularity and demand for English language, makes it a duty of the government to make English education accessible to all. This is not the case, all around India. Hardly, few schools provide high quality English education and also these are very expensive and hence, out of reach for most people. In most schools English education is not even provided and if provide, are of very poor quality and is taught in a very inefficient way. We must realise the utmost importance of communication in English and make it a compulsion for schools to provide it to the young minds.

English must be taught in a modern process and also properly to everyone. If everyone does not have the access then the point of learning a foreign language is lost.
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