

Principles of Teaching English

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- 1) **Principle of Naturalness:-** There is a natural environment for learning the mother tongue in the family but it's not the same with English. So such kind of atmosphere must be provided by:-
 1. Language training should start verbally and then proceed to written mode.
 2. Talking to the students in the class or in the playground in the target language only.
 3. Arranging group discussions
 4. Motivating the students to conversant with the teacher and other students. Teachers should concentrate on developing speech habits.
 5. Correct pronunciation should be taught.
 6. General vocabulary should be taught
 7. A sentence should be considered as a unit of language.
 8. Grammar should be taught inductively i.e. example + rule
 9. Words relating to everyday life should be used to enable them to associate their meaning.
- 2) **Principles of Habit Formation:-**
 1. Habit of repeating
 2. Habit of reading
 3. Habit of correct pronunciation
 4. Habit of consulting dictionary, encyclopedia and other reference materials.
 5. To read newspapers, magazines and books.
- 3) **Principle of Exposure:-**

A good teacher of English should try to expose students to an atmosphere for learning the English language.

 1. By distributing leaflets in the class in easy language.
 2. By suggesting students to watch English news, songs and movies.
 3. By displaying English question charts.
- 4) **Principle of Motivation and Interest:-**

Any language apart from the vernaculars requires a lot of interest and motivation to be learnt. It is the teacher's duty to ensure that their lessons are interesting for the students.

 1. Teaching sessions should comprise activity-centered lessons.
 2. Both deductive and inductive methods should be followed while teaching grammar.
 3. Interactive sessions should be conducted and students should be encouraged to participate in them.

A student can learn the language himself, if he is motivated by a teacher to learn English. Generally a person has an inner desire to learn his mother tongue in order to express his ideas but there is no such desire to learn English, so the teacher must motivate the students to learn English.

- 5) **Principle of Co-relation with life:-**

While teaching the subject matter should be related to life, customs, traditions and characteristics of the particular society to which the students belong. The teacher should create situations like real life to convey the meaning of words and sentences in the English language.
- 6) **The Principle of Order:-**

The four language skills should be taught in proper order like-

 1. L – Listening (Understanding)
 - S – Speaking
 - R – Reading
 - W - Writing
- 7) **Principle of Concreteness:-** The principle is based on the assumption that knowledge can be stored in the mind permanently if it is gained through practical experience. The teacher should create the real concepts in the minds of the learners.
- 8) **Principle of Imitation:-** Language is best learnt through natural imitation. A student learns or acquires the style of speaking and writing as demonstrated by his teacher. Therefore, it is essential that teachers be absolutely thorough with the subject.

The teacher's grammar and pronunciation must be up to the mark correct.
- 9) **Principle of Selection:-** Learning a language does not mean knowing all the words and structures. Therefore we need to select language items, structures and vocabulary that can be selected through the following principles.
 - A) FREQUENCY:-** It means how often a particular item is used. Frequency repetition of a language item in the process of teaching. The words and structures which are used frequently repeatedly. For example- Book, pen, table, chair, house.
 - B) RANGE-** Range refers to different contexts a word or an item can convey. Some words and expressions have a good range in the sense that

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they can be used in many contexts for example "patient", "fruit", come.

C) Availability- It refers to the fact that how far an item is convenient to teach. It refers to the items which are easily available, for example:- blackboard, chalk, shelf and drawer, charts.

D) Coverage- It means a word conveying multiple meanings. For example to displace chair, bench, desk, tool and sofa.

It refers to the fact that how many different meanings a word or an item can convey.

If we mention the word 'fruit' it covers many other words such as apple, banana or orange. It is clear that the word 'fruit' has more coverage than any other word in the category.

E) Teachability- It means the items which can be easily taught by the teacher. It is easy to teach a child familiar words like 'Apple', rat and cow rather than words like honesty and jealousy.

F) Learnability- A teacher should take care of the learning ability of the students according to their age and interest. The teachers should select only those words first which are easy to learn.

- 10) Principle of Practice:-** It is said that one learns maximum by doing. Therefore the practice sessions and drills hold paramount importance in language and learning. Model reading, imitation reading, silent reading, writing and spelling practice are essential activities for teaching a language.

Language is a skill that depends on continuous practice. The various skills of language learning namely listening, speaking, reading and writing will be properly learnt through practice and drills.

Language drills and practice are used to reduce the errors of students. A pupil acquires correctness, efficiency, fluency and mastery by proper practice over speaking, reading and writing.

- 11) Principle of Gradation:-** Gradation of the language material means placing the language items in an order.

Gradation involves grouping and sequencing.

A) Phonetic grouping- grouping according to sounds. For example- Words having the same sound or placed in the one group as cat, bat, mat, fat, sat

Pit, hit, kit, fit, it.

B) Grammatical grouping- grouping according to similar patterns as, my book, his book (pattern grouping) in the corner/in the class/in the garden (phrase grouping).

C) Semantic grouping – Grouping according to meaning. For example- School, college, university, bicycle, rickshaw, car, train, aeroplane.

D) Lexical grouping- grouping according to lexical situations.

For example- school teacher, headmaster, peon, classroom, library. All these words are grouped around the school.

- 12) Principle of Sequencing:-** It refers to "What comes after what". The language items which is to be taught should be arranged according to the correct order. The sequence should be there in the arrangements of sounds (phonetic sequence), and phrases (grammatical sequence). Words/vocabulary (lexical sequence), Meaning (semantic sequence).

- 13) Principle of Presentation-**

1. Model reading by the teacher (pronunciation) intonation, stress, pause, articulation and expression are emphasized here.

2. Loud reading by students- Students try to read the matter as the teacher read in model reading. After loud reading, the errors of the students are corrected through pronunciation and choral reading.

The teacher uses pictures, objects and activities to explain the lesson.