

How to Teach Effectively for Young Learners

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ANNOTATION

In this article discusses about how to teach language effectively for young learners. Children learn new words mainly by hearing them in a meaningful context (which often includes a story's illustrations or a speaker's gestures). Reading to and with children, and engaging them in conversations, are great ways to build their vocabularies.

KEYWORDS: young learners, language, teach, teaching older learners, study.

Introduction

Nowadays, more and more people are dedicating time to studying English as a second language. Many countries include English in their school syllabus and children are starting to learn English at a younger and younger age.

Teaching young learners are different from teaching older learners. Young learners have their own characteristics. Older learners have their intention to learn and study but young learners are not. Young learners just follow what they want and like. They do not really respect to other people. They like to enjoy their own life and style. Because of that, we need to understand their characteristics.

Language has some skills to understand; listening skill, speaking skill, reading skill, and writing skill. Those skills have their own characteristics to be understand and to be mastered. Mastering all those skills needs some certain method too, but we can learn them as step by step. Every language teacher should understand well related to the skills when they are teaching language. As a teacher should understand well which skill the students should learn first, how to teach each skill, and what the characters of the language learners. When the teacher understand those well, it will be easy to recognize the learners, to choose the suitable method, and find the suitable materials.

Teaching foreign language is different from teaching first language, even though some of the orders are same. Before we teach second language, of course we have to understand the first language then before we learn foreign language we have to understand the second language. It is because the first language can be as a tool to explain and study second language.

According to some scholars there are some characteristics of young learners:

- Children age 8-10 are mature enough
- They have particular point of view
- They can describe the difference between fact and fiction
- They are curious of asking questions

- They believe of what is said and the real word to express and comprehend meaning
- They have distinct option about what they like and what happens in the classroom and begin asking the teacher decision
- They can cooperate with other people and learn from another

Children for elementary school are young learners, they have just limit concentration, not more than 45 minutes duration to study. So teacher should make an enjoy learning in the class.

Main part

Make dialogues using new vocabulary items. Pairs or small groups choose a new word that they think is useful and want to remember. With lower levels you could do this as a class and build up a dialogue to illustrate the meaning of the word on the board. Higher levels learners can use dictionaries and work in pairs to write their dialogues and then act them out. If your class like making videos you could also film learners performing their dialogues and then show the films to the class to revise vocabulary in future lessons.

Language not main subject for the children to learn. It is just additional; moreover it is just a foreign language. For the children it can be difficult, it can be easy based on their experience of foreign language. The children do not understand what for the level is. But as a teacher, we have to make the children like the English then the English can be accepted by them. Related to the characteristics of the young learners, what should be prepare for teaching language to young learners?

- The teacher should be attractive and be careful to the children
- The teacher should be always be happy and cheerful
- The method and media should be interesting
- It is a must include song and game
- The teacher should refresh always every time they feel bored

Children are mostly attractive, happy and cheerful; so the teacher should be a bit like the children; cheerful, happy, attractive. The teacher feels what the children feel, the children need to be cared and got more attention. If the teacher just teach the material, of course the children feel little lazy. It is because, children do not know the order of learning, they do not know the need of learning, they just want to enjoy their life.

Another preparation to teach language is method and media. The teacher should use interesting media and method; like song, colorful thing, games and happy song

Teaching young learners can use stories in the class, because children usually like to listen and tell the story too. Through the story, children can enrich the vocabulary, moral message, and get language experiences. When the children have curiosity to listen the story, they try to understand the vocabulary what the teacher gives.

Learners will enjoy playing whilst practicing their language skills and recycling target vocabulary. Give your learners a photocopy of flashcards for the vocabulary and a blank bingo card. Ask them to choose a certain number of vocabulary items and stick them onto their bingo card. Alternatively, they could either draw or write the vocabulary. Place a

complete set of flashcards into a hat and pull them out one by one. The first player to cross off all the items on their bingo card shouts 'Bingo!'

Play traditional hangman, or a variation on hangman: draw a shark in the sea with its mouth wide open and lots of teeth. Draw ten steps going into the shark's mouth. Indicate the word to be guessed with lines as in regular hangman. Each time a learner says the wrong letter draw a stick man going down the steps. They lose (and get eaten by the shark!) if the stick man runs out of steps.

Conclusion

Teacher can use songs to teach vocabularies, phrases, sentences rule or other. So the teacher can decide the suitable song for the teaching and learning needs and purposes. So the children can enjoy the song while learning some materials, sometimes they do not realize that they are learning during singing a song.

Children build hypotheses about how the foreign language works from the input they have received during their limited experience with the language. Therefore, their errors can give teachers useful information about their learning processes and their internal grammars.

Teaching language for young learners is interesting activities. Before teaching young learners teacher should know the characteristics of young learners and the student's needs.

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