

ROLE OF NEWSPAPER IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING**Shaik Iliyas Ali¹, M.A., (Ph.D.)**Assistant Professor of English, Annamacharya Institute of Technology & Sciences
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Abstract: *Over the last three decades, major changes have taken place in the English language teaching methods, especially in second and foreign language learning scenario. This paper aims at analyzing the importance of usage of newspaper and magazines in the classroom and finding the ways on how to use print media. The classroom becomes a multidimensional environment. It is difficult for the teachers to manage this multidimensional environment. It is essential for them to make the students able to use the news paper and at the same time deal with other activities such as researching for information from books and magazines. The following issues are open for discussion: the importance of media in general and education in particular; media are persuasive and pervasive, example newspapers and magazines. The possibilities of interactive or 'student-centered' approaches to teach writing skills in English through newspaper and I review basic procedures common in English Language Teaching to design tasks for literary study will be discussed. Such tasks I suggest, newspapers can definitely supplement the traditional lectures.*

Keywords: *Teaching English, use of print media, newspapers, language acquisition.*

Introduction:**Newspapers in the classroom:**

Newspapers is considered as a great source of learning language and it also provides industry materials for variety of people especially for students i.e., sports column, education column, cultural activities column, historical and geographical columns as well. The language used in newspaper is day to day language with all idiomatic expressions of that culture. We have various language styles which are not found in textbooks we can analyze the newspapers in the various ways – for academic writing, as the text for semantics and the stylistics. The real life events arouse student's curiosity and they not only provide knowledge, but give a practical way of indulging students in learning language.

Newspapers can be designed in such a way to develop reading comprehension, grammatical skills & Vocabulary skills, writing skills and critical analysis. Newspapers can be organized base on the skills that is needed to impart in the classroom. The length of the article, the time allotted, and student's capability to understand the density of the material should be considered before choosing the text. Most of the people generally read regional newspapers as they are easy to understand and the comprehension papers like Deccan Chronicle, The Hindu and various English Magazines and papers etc., provides literary and non- literary material. Through internet various newspapers can be browsed. Certain things that we have to keep in mind are:

- If the article is lengthy it may take more time through which the pupil may lose interest.
- If the students like the topic they get motivated and it would be easy to teach them.
- The task should be devised in a systematic way to make it even more interesting.
- Weather forecast, advertisements, headlines can be glanced quickly and students will not be self conscious.
- Some time photographs and illustrations published in newspapers can also be useful to conduct activities among the students especially, group discussions, describing object and situations with the help of that particular image.

If not the whole time at least a part of a time are as activity for communication skill newspapers can serve as cheapest material available for reading. It mainly develops reading skills and also the other skills like writing, speaking and listening skills which may be grasped at the same time.

Certain pre-activity tasks can foster the learning of the students, when we especially give the material for them in hand as a means of home work to pick up the skills next day, especially vocabulary task. Then as the class begins the next day students can arrive at the meaning and brain storming method can be used effectively for this purpose. Students can expect the meaning based on the context and can suggest the alternative titles that can be used and when questions are asked. They can quickly have a glance to arrive at the meaning and thus the newspaper activities are multi-dimensional. Students can learn the new vocabulary from the photo stories, movie pictures, famous faces, literary columns, classifying acts, jobs interviews, T.V. guidelines, horoscopes, weather predictions gives various sites in which language can be used effectively for various purposes across the world.

Vocabulary can be taught in the class room with the help of newspapers. Reading newspapers make the students to be updated with the currents events at the same time academically they can develop command on the vocabulary. All the vocabulary needed may not be found in the newspapers but the related words around a particular word should be taken and pair work should be given to predict the meaning using dictionary and asked them to find out the antonym and synonym for that particular word. Various forms of that particular word as adjective, verb, noun

forms can be looked into. Students should attempt to make their own sentences of the particular word chosen.

The lexical text and the grammar exponents as reported speech, sentence style can be examined. We should also test if the text is suitable for

1. Role play
2. Discussion and
3. Pair work

- At the first reading students should simply be advised to read the text at the stretch quickly to grasp the gist of the text.
- In the second reading they should understand the main argument or main focus of the article and it should be read in detail to understand the article. Transformation of the information is also possible in the deep understanding. For example, if a table is given it can be written in the running matter.
- Follow up is necessary and a role play can be design to discuss the topic and debate on it, comparison activities and critical analysis improves the thinking power of the student. The first task necessary to it is:

- a. The appropriate topic
- b. The text material suitable for the age
- c. The length that suits to the time of class allotted

The following is the exercise for practice made to illustrate for better understanding:

Activity - I: Exercise given to the student for practice:

- 1. Read the following paragraph and identify 3 new vocabulary words and write its meaning.**
- 2. Identify antonyms and synonyms of any 3 words from the following paragraph.**

“**There** are advantages in early rising. It gives good start for work and a lot of work can be done well. The early riser can have time to do morning exercise, which gives energy to last until the evening. He can do the work leisurely and will have time to rest. Early rising is conducive to health. Some great thinkers feel that good work can be turned out only after midnight. But working late hours leads to ill-health. The damage done to health in the long run has a bad effect on the quality work done”.

Activity – II: Response from the Students:**Vocabulary:**

New Words	Meaning
1. Conducive	Making it easy, possible.
2. Leisurely	With no particular activity or free time.
3. Exercise	Physical or mental activity that you do to stay healthy or become strong.

Antonyms & Synonyms:

Vocabulary	Antonym	Synonym
1. Early	First	Late
2. Good	Fair	Bad
3. Advantage	Benefit	Disadvantage

Activity –III:

- ✓ **Feedback has to be given by the teacher to the students based on their performance.**

Conclusion:

Students get motivated and they feel confident to deal with day to day life, as the newspapers connect their lives with their surroundings, and this is the more practical method and the change can prove more effective, especially in developing the vocabulary, synonyms, antonyms, guessing the meaning based on the context, homonyms, homophones and homographs for effective language speaking and writing.

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