

## Inter-relationship in the Study of English language and Literature

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***Abstract:** Language and literature are woven interdependently to understand the essence of the meaning behind the works of the great writers. English Language skills are to be developed in students because of their increasing demand in the society and also because literature is best understood if students imagine and reflect back on the works in their best language skills. There are numerous arenas of literature that reflects its beauty like metaphors, similes, quotes etc. that can be enjoyed best with the effective understanding of the language and its beautification. In this article, we are focusing on the development of English language along with the literature to feel its beauty of the language. We will discuss the importance of English language and literature, the difficulties faced by the students and teachers in this field and suggest some creative techniques to overcome these difficulties and equip students to instill in them the urge to learn the English language.*

***Keywords:** English Language and Literature, Difficulties, creative techniques*

The study of English language is attaining more and more significance with the passing time and its requirement is felt thoroughly in the global contexts. The learning of English is inevitable in the present scenario as it has become the link language between different states and different countries.

However, the teachers and learners of English in India where students are the non-native learners of English face many problems associated to teaching-learning of English. The teachers have to build up necessary skills of students so that they can express themselves in English in academic as well as real life contexts. Along with the study of English language, study of English literature is also essential. The reason being English literature has a wide readership. Hence, study of this literature widens the literary spectrum of readers. Indian students are to be enthused to consider the study of English literature as significant as the study of English language. It is helpful even in effective language learning.

## Focus of This Paper

This paper highlights some inventive techniques to encourage the teaching- learning of English literature. Literature can be taught using numerous techniques like pre-teaching projects of geographical, political, and historical aspects of country, collection of pictures, stamps, use of films, dramas, computer-aided language laboratories, internet, blogs, World Wide Web, and some other novel techniques of teaching literature. Use of above mentioned creative techniques can enhance students' involvement, love and keenness for learning of English literature.

## Teaching of English Literature: Need, Purpose and Importance:

It is evident that all over the world, the study of English literature is incorporated in educational system even in non-native English-speaking countries such as India. In order to understand the highlights of this paper it would be better to examine first, as to why English literature is studied and being taught even in their non-native identities.

The reason for the need and purpose of study of English literature may possibly be its increasing reputation as the literature of world language. With this, the native English Literature is considered vital and indispensable as part of the learning process of the English language. It might be read and analyzed for its literary aspects, to enjoy original native expressions of English and to be acquainted with the works of great literary masters.

English literature is looked upon with high regards for its variety of subjects, style, reflection of life and magnitude. Mostly the aesthetic beauty and the utility of language proficiency is the main reason behind the inclusion of literature in language study.

## Difficulties Faced by Students

There are numerous difficulties faced by Indian students while studying of English Literature. Before discussing the creative techniques to teach English literature, it is quite relevant to refer to some of the problems faced by the Indian teachers as well as students:

1. The classrooms are mostly filled with large number of students. It becomes difficult for the teachers to follow diverse experimental methods to teach because they are unable to control the large number of students and maintain the balance of interactions with all of them within the stipulated time.
2. The teaching of literature is to be made examination-oriented. If the teachers give more time for the all-round understanding of the text, it is unfeasible to cover the syllabus. Hence, the teachers have to prefer the examination-oriented teaching.

3. Facilities of LCD, computer, and internet are not available in all the classrooms. Hence, the teachers have to be satisfied with the traditional methods of teaching.

4. These days it has become very important for students to communicate in English as it is emphasized in every sphere of life. More stress is laid on the functional use of the English language. Hence, most of the students get interested in the study English language and not the English literature.

5. Indian students have very limited access to the inward meanings of the British, the American, the Commonwealth, and other English literatures because these literatures have totally different cultures in every aspect. They cannot analyze these literatures in depth without expert guidance.

6. The students of literature are not strongly aware of the possible job openings for them after studying literature courses. They think that it only provides them with a limited and restricted career prospects mostly in the field of academics. Majority of them are unaware about the plethora of jobs which are easily available in various fields after studying literature.

#### **Creative Techniques to Overcome the Difficulties:-**

With the study of the complexities mentioned above it is possible to find out some creative techniques to teach English literature:

1. Pre-teaching project: Before starting to teach a particular novel or a prose or a poetic composition it is very much essential to place the students in the age to which the work belongs. For this the teacher can ask the students to make a small project regarding the introduction and background of the country to which the text is related. The knowledge of geographical details, weather conditions, natural resources, etc., of the country adds a different flavor to learning of literature. It will provide students essential background which is particularly reflected in lexical items used in the literary text. This kind of teaching technique can make students feel the text rather than just making them familiar. Moreover the teacher can ask the students to bring maps of that country or inspire the students to draw them. All these activities help the students to know about the geographical, political and social context of the age they are concerned with.

2. Collection of pictures, stamps :The teacher should recommend the students to collect some pictures, images related to the customs, traditions, food, clothes etc. of various countries to get glimpse of different cultures and customs. Even the stamps of that country can also be collected to increase the involvement of the students to learn about the literature of that country.

3. Films / Dramas: Many films and dramas are based on novels and stories. These films or dramas should be viewed by the students and teachers after or before teaching the novel or

drama. It is very interesting to encourage the students to compare the film with the text. With the usage of this activity the comparative skills of language gets enhanced in the students. It is an effective way to instill among the learners very useful skills and strategies to acquire the language in context.

4. Activities in language laboratories: Teacher should make an arrangement where the students must visit language laboratories on a regular basis. These types of activities will make their learning experiences more enjoyable and they can be acquainted with British as well as American accents.

5. Use of E-books and internet: These days' students can use internet, blogs and e-books. These facilities can be made available in language laboratories to make learning enjoyable for students. This widens their prospects of remaining up-dated in the field of literary study along with different skills of language.

6. Author's introduction: Teachers can motivate students to present a brief biographical sketch of the author to bring an understanding of the outline of the writing. Students can be asked to read, speak or write few lines about the author. Such information can be compiled for further learning of the students as it helps them to know the background of the author and his writings.

7. Scope of creativity: Students should be promoted to engage in literary activities like writing a poem, articles, prose, quotations, short stories etc. Teachers can organize competitions for such activities to increase their interests in developing the taste of learning the literature and getting the hold over it which enables them to create more literary masterpieces.

8. Organizing exhibitions or documentaries on the works of the great writers: Teachers can create rich environment of literature to enthuse in them the interests towards literary blend of activities and understanding the thematic approaches to understand the literary writers.

9. Role plays: Teachers can organize and let students participate in role plays to get the essence of the various characters portrayed in different works of arts.

10. Reading aloud in a corrective manner: It is essential to enhance the reading as well as the speaking of the students as literature is one of the important subject which can help them imbibe in them the capacity to develop vocabulary and communication skills, that can help them in their daily interactions among people in society. Furthermore, through this activity teachers can diagnose the correct or incorrect strategies students deploy while doing silent reading.

11. Comprehending the underline meaning of the text: It is mandatory to teach students of literature to read between the lines. Teachers can conduct discussions, debates, role plays,

extempore on their understanding about the hidden meaning of the content along with the character sketch of the characters and their perceptions reflected in the texts.

12. Encourage students to think and imagine abstractly about the endings and the morals attached to them: Students should be encouraged to imagine the different types of endings that could have happened to the texts to let them understand the conclusions of the text and the difference between right and wrong.

13. Counseling students in right direction for shaping bright careers in the field of literature. If students are encouraged and groomed in the rich environment of literature, they will feel the essence of the cultural and social values attached to the literature and will be encouraged to start up their careers in fields of- journalism, tourism, writing, poetry, drama , criticism etc. in the field of literature.

### Conclusion

Therefore we conclude that language and literature both are the cornerstones of an effective learning of the culture and ethics in the society. Both should be taught inter dependently as without the skills there is very little scope of understanding the dynamics of literature. This is so because if students will not be able to reproduce after what they have read and understood in the literary texts, there will be no effectiveness of teaching literature. And there are various creative methods that can be employed to stimulate them in the rich arena of writings of the great authors and poets. When equipped with good and thoughtful understanding of literature, these students can surely be the representatives of positive change that we visualize for the society.

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