



## English Language Teaching for Average level students in Engineering Colleges

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**Abstract:**As a Language Teacher I have come across all levels of students. The difference what I found in a class of 60 is vast. For example, (there are about 3 levels: High, Medium and Low). Today I am going to concentrate on Medium Level Students. They all come with one big dream in unison of becoming a full-fledged engineer one day but we can see that most of their dreams shattered at the very outset when they realize that they lack in effective communication. After analysing I have set a new level of teaching in a class of 60 identifying these students to come out of their comfort and explore what is meant for them. Through this paper I have reminisced on those experiences and have also shared those strategies which i consciously have taken efforts to help such students overcome theirs fears.

### **Introduction.**

The major problem what we come across in this generation student is OVER-CONFIDENCE which make them not to learn beyond a limit. In yonder years not everyone could fulfil the dreams of becoming an engineer because of the paucity of colleges but now this dream does not seem that farfetched. Every year thousands of students from different cultural background seek admission in best of the University or Colleges to get a degree and be employed. Once they get into these of Colleges/ Universities and get into a classroom they find it pretty difficult to cope up with the entire 60 in a class, it is then they realize that they lack in communication.

Hence some rush to join spoken English class to overcome this problem but at the end they don't get what they actually want to. They don't have the insight to understand that learning a language should come within and try hard to addendum it.

### **Discussions:**

As we all know we come with different cultural backgrounds. From childhood the way of dealing with English and its teachings has been different. Different schools different System has been followed. So, by the time they come to Colleges/Universities they PANIC. They suffer a lot overcome their fears. The list of challenges they come across:



### **1. Lack of Confidence:**

The first and foremost fear in a Medium level student is Lacking confidence. This come with him along with his childhood of not stepping out or taking any initiative. Even few schools and teachers never try to identify them.

### **2.Mother Tongue:**

Thinking always takes place in one's mother tongue and this creates a major hurdle; in acquiring spontaneity in a language which is not used in a regular basis. Even translation become impossible when they don't know a language.

### **3.Parents attitude:**

Most of the Parents lack awareness towards the importance of language. They also want their children to show more of concentration towards their subjects.

### **Strategies to combat these problems:**

As a teacher have tried a lot of methods to enhance their skills. I would like to share a few which has enriched and brought about a difference in their lives.

**Reading Newspapers:**Asking the student to read a piece of information the previous day on any of the topics he likes. The next day in class making him share the information with the limited communication what he acquires. After the session given him the right feedback makes him correct his mistakes.

**Building a story:**High Frequency word along with its meaning will be given, as an individual he/she will be made to write a story using these words to make it a complete story.

**High Frequency Words:**Words like (Farage, Gawk, Heretical, Impugn, Gazebo & Heinous) we ask them find the Thesaurus words as much as possible and make a sentence with the Thesauri word. This enriches his Vocabulary.

**Speaking in English:**Making them talk in English in compulsory at least while they are in College. Continuous talking makes him perfect.

**Classroom Activities:**Giving them simple topic for Eg., Mobile Phone, Newspaper College & Canteen and ask them to talk what they can.



**Group Activities:** Ask them to form a group and give them Current topics and ask them to bring the updates. They should try to articulate in English.

### **Listen Properly**

Today, people grow up fighting to be heard. We're told from the beginning that if we want something, we need to speak up. Unfortunately, this has affected our ability to really listen. Although we do hear what the other person is saying, we don't actually listen (hence the expression: "hearing without listening"). This is especially true in work environments where competition comes into play as well. (If you're not sure about the distinction between the two, there's a great article on the People Communicating blog which gives a more detailed explanation).

To avoid making this mistake, always give the other person your complete attention to understand their point. This way, you will be able to avoid any misunderstandings, show the person you're speaking with that you're taking them seriously, and establishing respect between the two of you. I know that this may sound simplistic, but many people say something like, "You have two ears, and only one mouth. So, you should listen twice as much as you speak." That really is the truth. Allow yourself enough time to hear and understand what the other person is saying, and if you need to, ask for clarity. At least the other person will know that's in your list.

### **Keep an open mind**

You must have heard the phrase, 'walk a mile in their shoes' – and this applies to perception as well. People look at situations differently and they interpret words differently as well. For example, if you say a design is good, some people might take it as a compliment; others might wonder why you didn't say it's great. When there are several people working together in a stressful, competitive environment, this issue is compounded. This is why it's crucial for you to keep an open mind and recognise that differences in perspective and understanding are natural.

The best way to deal with these is to be aware of where the other person is coming from. If you can't do that, try to understand that a difference of opinion exists and let the matter go. In essence, you need to agree to disagree. Forcing your point on someone else never works.

### **4) Be aware of cultural differences**

We live in a world that's growing closer every day. People from different cultures, races, and religions work together in the same environment and are expected to get along. Unfortunately, this is easier said than done. Cultural sensitivities differ from place to place and what you might consider wrong may be right from someone else's viewpoint.



Similarly, what you might interpret as normal, people of different cultures might consider odd or even offensive. This is a very common problem in a multicultural environment. You can address this by asking for confirmation or opinions. This encourages people to be open with their concerns and would eventually lead to fewer misunderstandings.

Everyone is capable of communicating effectively with others, you just need to know what pitfalls to avoid and how to overcome some of the most common communication barriers. The simple rule of the thumb is to treat others how you would like them to treat you. It's a very important skill that influences both your personal and professional life.

Conclusion:

Individual attention of the teacher in class with the fewer students also promotes the language proficiency. So, our education system should follow international guidelines to adopt a system with moderate number of students to give individual attention. The educational system should bring in remedial measures to overcome this problem.

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