

## ENGLISH: THE NEED OF TODAY'S WORLD

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### ABSTRACT

Language is one of the components which frame our feelings into words. Globally, out of many languages English is a well-known language considered as the ladder to develop oneself in this cosmos. Lulia Ene says "Generally people who really have got something to say, whose desire is to share their message or beliefs worldwide are compelled to use English". (p. 01). I agree with this quote that all of us are largely depending on English language to express ourselves. But, there are many others who are still unaware of the brighter side of the English language. This paper will explore the possible reasons for not adapting English language as part of our societies in Pakistan and will recommend some strategies to overcome these hurdles. This paper will also discuss the causes behind the controversy on adopting English language as part of Pakistani context including cultural constrain, lack of confidence among learners and lack of human resources to teach English language.

### INTRODUCTION

We require a language to express our ideas and feelings into words. There are many languages spoken worldwide and out of them English is an internationally accepted language. We are in the state to depend on English to communicate with the world. Unfortunately, it is true that many from the developing countries are shockingly deprived of opportunities to learn the global language. In Pakistan, the foremost cause of hampering in development of English language is our cultural values. Saniei (2012) highlights that "Language is a part of culture and culture is a part of a language. The two are intricately interwoven so that one cannot separate the two without losing the significance of either language or culture" (p.10). To exemplify, language is like a match stick, culture is like a candle and communication means to light. To take away darkness and lighten the environment both candle and match stick is essential.

## LACK OF COMMUNICATION

Students specifically in Pakistan have very less opportunities to learn English. There is a false trend that learning English could spoil the native people and mislead them into the English culture. But this is something ridiculous. English is becoming the most powerful and dominant language of the world and learning it would be the only way to develop ourselves. We have to broaden our vision and accept English language as a tool to help us grow personally and professionally.

Educational institutions in Pakistan have to put in more effort to train the students to acquire a good grasp of the language. Only when the students could communicate in English they will acquire the confidence to face the global competitiveness confidently. Lack of confidence among learners is another factor through which English language in Pakistan is obstructed. Shyness has turned out to be one of the major causes for the lack of communication. Nawab (2012) concluded that “The studies conducted in Asian contexts reveal that learners in most Asian countries feel shy and nervous while using English” (p.698).

Another factor which is creating trouble in learning English in Pakistani context is lack of resources. Expert teachers are in great demand nowadays. In Pakistan there is dearth of trained teachers who can teach English effectively. Nawab (2012) noted “Unfortunately, lack of trained teachers proficient in the English language has consistently emerged as a big challenge in Pakistan” (p. 698). Lack of trained teachers is a major cause for the existing defects and due to this the students are unable to receive quality education.

Due to not having suitable trained teachers many of the students drop out from schools. Institutions in Pakistan do not stress on communication development. They are least bothered to organise any sessions or classes related to English language training. The institutions as well as the teachers have to realize the importance of communicating in English and have to implement training sessions on English learning. This would definitely help students like us in a great way.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

English is playing vital role to mobilize our country towards the path of development. For improving the scope of English language in Pakistan I would suggest some of the recommendations by keeping in mind the above mentioned causes accordingly. Learning English in no way shatters the values of our culture. People have to come to a broader understanding that learning English is a way for development. According to Saniei (2012) "Using the target language perfectly does not require the target language users to change their values and beliefs" (p. 15). Besides this, to eradicate the element of shyness among learners of English language it requires continuous application of English language in their daily lives rather than confining the English language to only their professional lives and formal documentation. To make learners comfortable with the use of English language it requires constant appreciation and support from their teachers and from their learning environment.

According to Nawab (2012) "To develop competency in a language, the learners must interact in the language". (p.703). To achieve this goal we need to target teachers for training purposes. Faculty training is highly essential. As Nawab (2012) suggested that teachers should be trained efficiently in English language and they ought to master the four highlighted skills including reading, writing, listening and speaking which is the most pivotal areas in attaining this goal. Pakistani Government and other NGO's now should take one step ahead to understand the English language requirement and take some measures accordingly. Shamim (n.d) recommends that the most recent Education Policy (Government of Pakistan 2009) also recommends the teaching of English as a subject from grade I and use of English as the medium of instruction for Science and Mathematics from class IV onwards. Eventually, endorsing English language requires much efforts and positive attitude.

## CONCLUSION

Understanding the importance of English language learning, institutions in Pakistan has to undertake the necessary steps to train adequately. Communicating in English has to be stressed more. Unless the students are encouraged to communicate in English it will be highly difficult and

impossible for them to shine in the society. Communicating in English constantly will help us become experts and provide us with the courage and confidence to face any real-life situation.

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