

The Significance of Language Laboratory in English Language Teaching and Learning

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Abstract: This paper aims to examine the significance, impact and different ways of using language lab in mastering English language. Language lab is an effective aid in teaching – learning process of basic English language skills. It is deliberately understood that integration of language lab in teaching and learning is of great help and important in the development of English language skills such as listening, speaking, reading and writing. Use of language lab in learning the basic skills which can make many contributions and provide an arena for learners to improve the skills of a language. Hence, the objective of this paper is to determine the importance and its impact for an effective learning.

Keywords: Basic skills, examine, enumerable, language lab, significance, teaching – learning process.

1. Introduction

Communication skills is vital and an essential key to succeed in professional, social gatherings, business communication and personal relationships. Good communication is one of the demanded skills which everyone expects and it shows the ability of an individual to listen carefully, speak clearly and make others to feel at ease. If one wishes to reach out to people, he or she has to speak their language. Especially, English language has become the need of the hour in all walks of life and aspects where learning a language is not as easy as learning a subject or a topic. It needs a lot of efforts and consistent hard work as well as dedication to learn a language. When we talk about learning a language, it is a well-known fact that all four skills are equally important as these four skills namely listening, speaking, reading and writing are inter – related. Because when one listens actively, it helps to grasp the meaning of the context. Besides, this listening aids in responding and reciprocating the message. In this technological era, Language lab plays a predominant role in the area of language acquisition. This paper throws light on the significance and uses of language lab in learning process. Since it is a technological aid, it provides an opportunity to learn and inculcate a positive attitude in the young minds to develop their communication skills to be a successful professional.

2. Need for language lab

Language lab is an audio – visual installation used in modern

teaching methods to learn a language. The language lab is a technological aid for imparting skills in English. It offers an exclusive result and efficiency to enrich the language.

Moreover, Multimedia based language helps to learn and enhance the language proficiency by sharing the course materials within a fraction of second. It is developed in view of acquiring all four skills. Language lab is an asset and an effective aid especially in teaching – learning process. It is an auditory oriented where the direct sound transmission gives step by step guidance as well as a crystal clear clarity in acquiring the pronunciation. Moreover, the usage of language lab enhances listening skill and make students to actively involve as well as arouses interest. On the other hand, comprehension skill can be improved as it a self-pacing learning where an individual gets motivated to learn and comprehend. Students have the privilege to record their own voice and replay the recording, interact with each other. It is an opportunity to enhance their interpersonal skill.

Language lab acts as a tool in shaping and creating students to turn into a skilled person in what they are learning. It also helps to improve the listening skill, building vocabulary skill and presentation skills. In addition, soft wares available in the language lab assist learners in the acquisition and improvisation of oral and written proficiency whereby the grammar elements which is considered to be the most significant part of sentence construction can be learnt concurrently. There are many kinds of lab which is used to assist learners in different aspects. Most common types of language lab are conversation lab, linguaphone, Computer assisted language lab and Multimedia hi-tech language lab. The language lab provides broadcasting, web – assisted materials and videotaped off-air recordings in the target language. Thus, the language lab has become the need of the hour in language learning. It is not only for English but also for learning any language.

3. Importance

The importance of the language lab has majorly influenced in the domain of communication especially language learning. We live in an era which comprises of Multilingual and Multicultural people, where technology has revolutionized people. In this context, language lab is a boon to get accustomed in terms of technology and acts as an effective aid for the

teachers in conducting online courses and sharing of documents and videos. This enables the learners to familiar with the online test. Moreover, competitive examinations like BEC, IELTS, and TOEFL can be conducted with the help of language lab.

4. Conclusion

To conclude, language lab offers facilities where students listen, comprehend and there by nourish their speaking skill also. Since, language lab provides learners a chance of self-learning according to their own comprehending level and flexible time to learn. As a result, it can be said that, language lab can be used consciously and in a planned way as it would definitely make enumerable significant contributions to the comprehensive language learning. Hence, Language lab is an indispensable tool for every English teachers where materials and lessons prepared once can be utilized all the time. If the value of using the language lab is experienced with the clear

objective for mastering the language, one can certainly be unique in their communication which is the key for a successful and prosperous career.

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