

On the Relationship between the Development of College Students' Language Ability and English Language and Literature

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Keywords: College students, Development of language ability, English language and literature, Relationship

Abstract: In the traditional process of English teaching in colleges, the theoretical knowledge level is attached with more attention while there is a lack of stress to the cultivation of language ability. With the further development of new curriculum reform, courses related to English Language and Literature have been added to College English teaching, which plays a vital role in cultivating the language ability of students. This paper focuses on the analysis of the components of college students' language ability, and explores the relationship between English Language and Literature and the development of college students' language ability, hoping to be helpful for teachers' teaching.

1. Introduction

English Language and Literature play a vital role in helping students understand the relevant literature works of the English speaking countries, as well as deepening their understanding of the history and culture of those countries. Meanwhile, it helps students to master English literature terms and schools of English literature. All of those are conducive to promoting the improvement of college students' English level. Therefore, English Language and Literature are closely related to the development of students' language ability. In the teaching process, it is essential to give full play to the role of English Language and Literature, promote students' language ability and enhance students' ability to apply English.

2. Components of Language Ability

Language ability refers to the ability to use language. Its formation requires not only a long process, but also a systematic learning. Language is an important tool for human to transmit information and express emotions. Language ability is a crucial guarantee for information transmission and emotional expression. Only with language ability can people communicate more smoothly. To learn English, we should not only pay attention to words, grammar and so on, but also stress the development of language ability. The traditional English teaching mode tends to lead students to fall into a misunderstanding. That is, to focus only on the study of basic theoretical knowledge but ignore the development of language ability. In order to promote the development of language ability, it is required to firstly understand the cultivation process of language ability. The composition of language ability mainly includes the following aspects.

2.1 Basic Knowledge of Language

Basic knowledge is the foundation of the development of language ability. Without the support of basic knowledge, students' communication will encounter serious obstacles, resulting in the transmission of information errors, inadequate emotional expression, or misunderstanding etc. Basic language knowledge is mainly about words, grammar and so on. In our country, more emphasis is put on basic knowledge education. Even some English education is only around basic knowledge teaching. Although it lays the foundation for students' language ability, there is a lack of scientificity and comprehensiveness. Therefore, it is required to not only ensure the quality of basic knowledge teaching, but also take into account other aspects of teaching, so as to promote the

development of students' language ability.

2.2 Rhetoric of Language

For English language, there are two main forms of communication: oral communication and written communication. However, no matter which way of communication is taken, it is necessary to master the rhetoric art. Compared with the Chinese language, although English greatly differs in rhetoric, the function of rhetoric is the same which is for the better expression of emotional services. In the process of language expression, rhetoric not only improves the appeal of sentences, but also effectively improves the accuracy of sentences, which is the key role of language rhetoric.

2.3 Cultural Background

Language plays an important role in emotional expression and information transmission, but it is influenced by cultural background and environment. Different cultures lead to different ways of language communication. Moreover, under the influence of cultural background, there are a lot of language taboos in life. For example, "cancer" stands for a serious disease. If the first letter "c" is capitalized, the meaning of the word will change dramatically. "Cancer" in English means "the patient is going to die". If students fail to understand these taboos, it's easy to express wrongly, which leads to unnecessary misunderstanding.

3. Role of English Language and Literature in the Development of College Students' Language Ability

The most extensive application of language is the communication between people. However, the highest level to apply language is reflected in literary works. Therefore, in the process of learning English, college students need to pay more attention to English Language and Literature. English Language and Literature are suggested to be used as a vital tool to learn English, which helps to improve the language ability of college students. Literary works are the concentrated embodiment of language application. There are not only a large number of language expression skills and methods, but also numerous communication skills and rhetorical ways. At the same time, the culture and language taboos of English speaking countries are reflected. These contents are the key factors in English learning. Therefore, paying more attention to English Language and Literature is helpful for the development of college students' language ability.

3.1 English Language and Literature Provide Examples for College Students

College students can refer to grammar and syntax in English Language and Literature. Under its influence, students are able to understand the context more deeply and express their feelings through correct sentences. At the same time, it also contains numerous rhetorical devices. Through learning, students will improve their language expression ability. For example, in *Jane Eyre*, abundant rhetorical devices are used, through which students learn how to use English rhetorical devices.

3.2 English Language and Literature Enrich the Learning Content of College Students

Literary works play an important role in any language learning. English learning is no exception. Extensive fine words are used in English Language and Literature. Students will access to many fine words in the learning process, and master the application methods of these words, which is conducive to improving students' language ability. In addition, grammar is the main content of English learning. Traditional teaching methods lead to students' lack of ability to use grammar. In the process of daily communication and expression, the application of grammar is not flexible or accurate enough. English Language and Literature reflect the application of grammar in the corresponding context, and then promotes the use of grammar ability of college students.

4. Apply English Language and Literature to Promote the Development of College Students' Language Ability

4.1 Improve the Language Teaching Curriculum System

The cultivation of college students' language ability requires teachers to break through the shackles of the traditional teaching mode, enrich the teaching content, improve the curriculum system, incorporate English Language and Literature into the teaching system, broaden the vision of college students, improve the effect of English teaching, promote the development of college students' language ability, change the traditional teaching method of echoing what the books say and strengthen the practical teaching and heuristic teaching. In the process of teaching, it is not only required to strengthen the use of modern teaching methods, but also asked to not ignore the role of traditional teaching methods. It is essential to combine modern and traditional teaching methods, integrate them into English Language and Literature reasonably, give full play to the important role of English Language and Literature, promote the development of students' language ability, and improve their English Language and Literature accomplishment.

4.2 Strengthen the Application of English Language and Literature

English Language and Literature are crucial for the development of college students' language ability. However, there are still many problems in the process of college English teaching, such as less reading of English Language and Literature, less teaching of English Language and Literature, and a lack of teaching of literature theory. The existence of these problems not only affects the function of English Language and Literature, but also hinders the development of college students' language ability. Therefore, it is necessary to strengthen the application of English Language and Literature. For example, ensure sufficient class hours, set up literature theory courses, and encourage and guide college students to actively read. In the process of teaching, it is advised to integrate formalism linguistics, poetry of different forms and semantic representation of literature vocabulary, and to focus on linguistic research methods, the source of rhyme jumping, cognitive semantics, etc. In order to further improve the role of English Language and Literature, it is feasible to make clear requirements for the content in the undergraduate thesis of English major, and encourage and guide students to pay more attention to English Language and Literature. College English teaching belongs to a public course, which means that all college students will be involved in the learning of English knowledge. Therefore, in the process of teaching, teachers should grasp the thinking differences of arts and science students, and adopt different ways to carry out English teaching activities.

4.3 Guide College Students to Read English Language and Literature Extensively

To promote the development of college students' language ability, the role of English Language and Literature is of vital importance. In the process of College English teaching, teachers are asked to guide students to read English Language and Literature extensively. Through a large number of reading, the literary literacy as well as language ability of students will be greatly enhanced. The reading needs to be completed after class, which requires the construction of a perfect extracurricular reading system, so as to encourage students to make use of their spare time to read. Only when teachers guide students well, the reading enthusiasm of college students can be enormously improved. In the process of reading, students can absorb the nutrients of literary works, promote their English ability, and broaden horizons. In order to make more effective use of English Language and Literature, colleges and universities are suggested to construct an "extracurricular reading" course. In addition, the winter and summer vacation time is advised to be made use of to organize students to carry out reading activities, and reading experience exchange meetings with the help of modern communication means. This not only helps college students deepen their understanding of English Language and Literature, but also promotes the development of their language ability. Teachers are required to recommend excellent English Language and Literature works to students. Students are also allowed to choose appropriate literature works to read

according to their own interest and English reading level. To ensure the reading quality and effect, it is necessary to make reading notes, including the fine vocabulary and language and reading experience. In addition, it is also of necessity to cultivate reading interest and good reading habits. Through a large number of reading and reading experience exchange activities, students will understand and experience the charm of English Language and Literature, like English learning from hearts, and improve the enthusiasm and initiative of English learning, which is of great significance for the development of students' language ability. The purpose of language learning lies in better application. Therefore, in the process of reading works, colleges and universities should provide better platform for students. For example, English Film Dubbing Contest, Speech Contest of English Literature Classic and Business English Skill Contest, etc. These are the stages for college students to show their learning achievements, which will not only realize the application of learning, but also strengthen their language ability, so as to achieve more teaching effects.

5. Conclusion

The study of English Language and Literature not only promotes the improvement of college students' literary literacy, but also enhances the development of students' language ability and the cultivation of students' aesthetic taste. Therefore, college students' language ability is closely related to English Language and Literature. They influence and promote each other. English Language and Literature helps college students master the application norms and context of English, and improve their application ability of English language.

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