



INTERNATIONAL
STANDARD
SERIAL
NUMBER
INDIA

2395-2636 (Print):2321-3108 (online)

Importance of Learning English for the Teachers of other Disciplines in the Govt. and Non-Govt. Colleges in Bangladesh: A Critical Evaluation

Dr. A.H.M. Aktarul Islam

Professor, Department of English, Islamic University, Kushtia, Bangladesh



Article info

Article Received:06/07/2023

Article Accepted:10/07/2023

Published online:17/07/2023

DOI: [10.33329/rjelal.11.3.17](https://doi.org/10.33329/rjelal.11.3.17)

Abstract

The study was conducted at the Jhenidah and Magura district in Bangladesh during the 1st January 2023 to 30 June 2023. To obtain information, a lot of colleges of Jhenidah and Magura district have been taken in consideration. The colleges of Jhenidah district are- Govt. Nurunnaher Mohila College, Shaillkupa City Degree College, Hazi Arshad Ali College, and Govt. K. C. College. The colleges of Magura district are- Govt. Husein Shaeed Suhrawardi College, Magura Mohila Degree College, Magura Adharsha College and Magura- Sreepur Degree College. The colleges are selected randomly not purposively or deliberately. To conduct this study, primary and secondary data have been used. Primary data have been collected through the depth interview method, direct interview method, observation method and pre-structured questionnaire method. A lot of teachers of English and Non- English department (Lecturer, Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, Professor, vice-principal, Principal) have been considered and they provide potential information regarding this study. The main objective of this study is-to identify how much do the teachers of other disciplines have to know English and how can English advance the teachers and students of other disciplines. Findings of this study are- there are a lot significance of English for the students of other disciplines because of globalization. There is no alternative way to know speaking English. The recommendations are- the teachers of other departments have to know every grammatical rule of English because lots of books and journals are written in English that they have to study. Proper training has to be ensured for them because of the welfare of their students. Otherwise the students of other disciplines cannot keep up with globalization.

Keywords: purposively, potential, globalization, other discipline, grammatical, training.

Introduction

In the era of globalization, the importance of English cannot be ignored because now English is a common language that is spoken all over the world (Nishanthi, 2018). English has been a medium of information and communications technology (ICT) and intercultural understanding of modern science as well as entertainment and many more fields

(Putra *et al.*, 2020). English language and literature education can supply literature and language knowledge for the students effectively, to spread the thinking space of the students and to enrich the visions of the students, so that the students can achieve the speaking practice activities that can enhance the speaking skills of students purely (Weixiang & Peng, 2016, June). In where there is no

official or formal language in this nation, English is generally used to communicate there. About the 7.8 billion inhabitants of the world, among them 1.35 billion people use English for speaking. The majority of them aren't native speakers. Approximately, 360 million people use English for speaking as a first language (Dash & Gandhi, 2022). Technology plays a significant role to learn and teach English. To see websites and applications of it for YouTube, Facebook, twitter and email has become a part of the learning and teaching process (Al-Jarrah *et al.*, 2019).

There are a lot of problems of the students whose who are English language learners and the teachers have to solve the problems. To solve these problems, the teachers have to take different strategies so that the students enrich their speaking skills (Alqahtani, 2015). It is possible by the teachers, when the teachers practice learning English and do pair activities and enrich themselves. For this they have to take different types of methods and latest techniques of speaking. If the teachers are enriched, their students must be enriched. (Renjini & Puri, 2020). As an international language English is used in these sectors. Such as the field of scientific research, education, business, the internet, travel and tourism, media and newspapers, software, medicine, engineering, information and technology, entertainment, banking and so on (Hayati, 2015). To know the meaning of English vocabulary is one of the most prominent sectors parts of English as English is a foreign language. (Malavika & MuthuKrishnan, 2021). When the teachers teach their students to learn English, different types of problems are appeared to the teachers. The teacher should have utmost try and should have urges to solve the problems of their students by proper techniques, so that the students feel better in their classroom (Laghari *et al.*, 2022).

A good teacher should be up dated and should know different types of techniques to make a class fruitful. So that the students can understand the class and the teaching learning process may be good and the students feel interested in the class room. They will feel that English is not a subject it is a language. (Rohaizat & Aziz, 2022). The students of other disciplines think that English is for their exams

not for their practical life. In their practical life they do not solve the difficulties of English and they come back from that types of jobs and try to find a job where there is no use of English (Sari, 2021, January). The students should learn English from as a language from their school level and the teachers should teach them by this way. In this way the students can make their career and can be successful in their practical life. They should not teach English only for exam-oriented and bookish oriented. (Richards, 2015).

A robust mechanism of teaching is necessary for effective learning, that is absent in our education system. A novel plans made by the teachers can enhance the hidden quality of the students and if it is possible by every teachers the vision of teaching must be achieved (Banditvilai & Cullen, 2018). It is noticed that the teachers of other disciplines follow the traditional method of teaching. Now it is the demand of time that the teachers have to keep up with digital world and have to engage in different types of modern activities of teaching such as discussion with peer, debates, oral presentations, and teacher interactions (Diep, 2021). The teaching learning process has changed in this modern period, and a lot ultra-method to learn English has come but if the teachers are not capable to keep pace with the methods, the students are fit to the modern era. This study has tried to understand the use of English in practical life by solving the practical problems (Aram *et al.*, 2022).

English language is a subject of English department but the other disciplines' students have to learn English. If it is possible, the students will do better in their practical life. English will be compulsory in every department even Bangla department too. All the non-English departments read English as a compulsory subject (Reddy & Francis, 2022). Non-English Department students study English as a language and they will try to speak in English. They should not read literature as a student of English department but they will try to speak in English fluently and errorless and the teachers of non-English departments should do as like as their students (Dash & Gandhi, 2022).

Literature Review

Malavika & MuthuKrishnan (2021) explains that for speaking skills especially to gain well communication skills, the classroom is the main stage. At first, the learners' problems have to be understood by the teachers and try best to give solution for those problems. To solve the learners' problems the teachers have to take different strategies and they have to study English deeply.

Alqahtani (2015) indicates that the teachers have to study a lot of vocabulary and teach their students the proper meaning of the words. Only the meaning of the words can remove the learners' the fear of English. Many teachers do not practice the speaking of English because of the fear of vocabulary. They think that English is hard course it is not possible for to practice English because they have no idea of English vocabulary.

Renjini & Puri (2020) said that technology is a great equipment to learn English. The roles of technology give the learners huge information and make them easy to understand the English. Technology has a great contribution to learn English. Different types of English class are provided over the YouTube class. The students and the teachers can get well and good classes by internet. Undoubtedly we can say the internet is an important tool. Technology helps the learners to develop their thinking skills.

Hayati (2015) investigates that English is a globalization language. Now the whole world is like a village. To move from one corner to another corner of this village, we need a language. English is a language of that village and this language is accepted by all the people of this village. And so, all the people of this village have to learn English. There is no alternative way to learn English

Laghari et al., (2022) exhibit that students face different problems of English language and they are affected for learning. There is a huge gap between teaching and learning. It is very necessary to meet up the gap by effective learning outcomes. By novel teaching strategies, robust material lesson plans, pair work, learner engagement, group discussions, and constructive feedback is very much essential to

achieve the tentative outcomes of English teaching and learning.

Rohaizat & Aziz (2022) finds that the students have high intentions to learn English but they have enough lack of motivation. Therefore, the teachers should understand the underlying motives and the problems so that they can give proper contribution to the reduction for a better language learning process.

Sari (2021, January) examines that there is a lot of difference English Language Education Department (ELED) students and non-English Language Education Department (non-ELED). Their learning process is quite difference too. "Both ELED and Non-ELED Students shared the issues of vocabulary shortage, grammar difficulties, pronunciation problems, low speaking and listening skills, the unknown words, learning English using Google, learning English through social media, reading journals, using subtitles, watching movies that use English as a medium of communication, listening to English movies, singing English songs, joining English courses, making imitation, and practicing their English writing and speaking skills".

Richards (2015) explores that by two ways the English language can be learned. One is to learn in the classroom and the second is to learn outside of the classroom. In the classroom system learning, some problems are noticed and there are quite restriction and lot of literary terms are practiced. At present, the technology based class; the internet and media, face to face or virtual networking class give huge opportunities to learn English that will be more authentic and genuine learning process of English both in classroom and outside of the classroom.

Banditvilai & Cullen (2018) identify that the major problems of non-English departments' students are- writing is the great problem than listening. The students of non-English departments' do not study on a regularly. If a student wants to know reading, writing and speaking of English he must practice English on a daily.

Diep (2021) discovers that there are five factors that affect English language learning quality

namely "(1) Students' Motivation & Attitude, (2) Quality of Teaching facilitators, (3) Learning environment, (4) Students' Objectives, and (5) Teaching Curriculum".

Aram et al., (2022) show that academic teaching increases the motivation of the students. The use of teaching study strategies is more effective to enhance the academic enthusiasm of the students.

Reddy & Francis (2022) highlights that habit of reading books can increase the learning skills and capture the volume of language learning. A language cannot control the proper use of grammar and vocabulary but it can increase the hidden talent of the learners. In this global village, the present generation feels the demand of a global language seriously for which business fraternity and the professionals face new challenges in everyday life.

Objectives of the study

The objectives of the study are-

1. To know the reason of learning English for the other disciplines.
2. To identify what is the difficulties to learn English for other disciplines.
3. To identify what are the suitable methods to learn English for other disciplines.
4. To signify the necessity of literature that can help for other disciplines to learn English.
5. To determine the skills that can help for other disciplines to learn English.
6. To identify how English advance the teachers and students of other disciplines.

Research questions

The research questions are given below-

1. Why do the teachers and students of other disciplines have to learn English?
2. What are the difficulties faced by other disciplines to learn English?
3. What methods can help them to learn English?
4. How literature assists them to learn English?

5. What type of skills do they achieve by studying English?
6. How English progress the teachers and students of other disciplines?

Methodology

The study was conducted at the Jhenidah and Magura district in Bangladesh during the 1st January 2023 to 30 June 2023. I have taken sixty respondents purposively in every district that means total one hundred twenty respondents' have played a vital role to develop my research. To collect my information I have taken various colleges of Jhenidah district. Some of them are- Jhenidah Govt. K.C college , Govt. Nurunnahar Mohila college, Lalon Sah Govt. College , Hazi ArshadAli Degree college, Mia Jinna Alam Degree college, Mosharraf Hossain college, Moshiur Rahman Degree college, D.M. Degree college, Govt. Mahtabuddin Degree college. The colleges of Magura district are- Govt. Husein Shaeed Suhrawardi College, Magura Mohila Degree College Magura Adharsha College and Magura-Sreepur Degree College. To conduct this study, primary and secondary data have been used. Primary data have been collected through the depth interview method, direct interview method, observation method and pre-structured questionnaire method. A lot of teachers of English and Non- English department (Lecturer, Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, Professor, vice-principal, Principal) have been considered and they provide potential information regarding this study. To gain secondary data, different types of daily newspapers, academic books, text books, journal, research scholars' article, magazines, TV news, and talk show and so on are take into consideration.

Result and Discussion

It can be stated that there are a lot of teachers are taken into consideration to take viva on the basis of some fixed questions. The outputs of their conversation are put here not purposively. Many teachers explain their opinions fluently but some of them opinions are present here. These are-

According to Parimal Kumar Biswas, Professor, Dept. of English and ex-vice principal of Govt. Nurunnaher Mohila College, Jhenaidah-

English is a common language. In this era of globalization, English has to be learned by everyone whatever they are. They may be academicians or non-academicians. Every year a lot of common people are going abroad. But in the foreign country, they cannot earn enough because of lacking in English. Besides, different types of books and journals are written in English. If you want to taste the invention of science, we have to learn English. The people of other disciplines have to learn English because the teachers have to teach their students about different types of international level books and the students have to eat up them by understanding or not understanding. He especially influences on speaking in English. Without speaking in English, no one can enter into the way of globalization. He also says that literature cannot be helpful here. Without literature speaking is possible. He advises to read newspaper, to see different type English program and news telecasted by various TV channels, to notice YouTube English class. But a teacher of English must be essential to learn English. Not only this, every person should have urges to learn English.

Mst. Nazmun Naher, Vice Principal, Shaikupa City Degree College, shaikupa, Jhenidah and Ph.D Fellow, Dept. of Public administration, Pabna University of Science and Technology, Pabna, Bangladesh opines that if we want to make people as human resources we have to learn English. A lot of foreigners come to our country to do their activities as well as we have to go abroad for our activities and we have to do our daily activities with them. Without the knowledge of English, it is not possible to deal with them. These activities are not related with English dept. students only. Besides, all the books of the higher education in our country are written in English. Side by side different books composed in foreign writers have to be read for our higher education. So the teachers and students of other disciplines are to learn English compulsorily. She highlights to learn English literature because literature makes a man wise. It can enhance the depth of knowledge. She says if a man would like to be a player or an artist or a singer, he must have to know English because the globalization has made the whole world like a village. Her advice is – govt.

has to ensure compulsory English education in all disciplines even Bangla discipline also.

According to Md. Jakir Hossain, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Bangla, Hazi Arshad Ali College, Harinakundu, Jhenaidah-Nowadays, the necessity of English cannot be ignored because the whole world is like a village and English is a language of that villages. Most of the students read English only for their examination so that they can pass their examination. But the knowledge of English is mandatory for everyone if they are the students of English department or other departments. In the modern world, there is no alternative way to learn English. Only those who have the pure knowledge of English can get a better job. English plays a vital role in different fields such as engineering, medicine, and education, etc.

Mehadi Hasan Munna, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Management, Govt. K. C. College Jhenaidah tells that the English is an international language. English is widely used in the field of business, scientific research, travel and tourism, education, the internet, media and newspapers, engineering software, banking, medicine, information and technology, entertainment, and so on. English language is used internet purposes. Now the world is running on internet. Students have pure knowledge of English because all the ICT related books are written in English. If the students fail to understand the English language of ICT, the better result will not come and the students will not succeed in life. And so all the teachers have to pure knowledge of English and their utmost efforts will be to teach their students pure knowledge of English. Here literature knowledge is not necessary but speaking knowledge is necessary for all.

Md. Taiebur Rahman, Associate professor, Dept. of Management, Govt. Husein Shaeed Suhrawardi College, Magura and Ph.D Fellow, Dept. of Business administration, Pabna University of Science and Technology, Pabna, Bangladesh explains that English is essential for everyone because it is an international language. For globalization, everybody has to communicate internationally for their different types of personal and official works. For this work, everyone has to be habituated to earn the

depth knowledge of English literature. Literature helps a man to be habituated to learn English. So literature is essential to learn English. Because of lacking of knowledge of English, the teachers of other discipline cannot give their full efforts to their students and the students of other disciplines are deprived. And so in practical life, they cannot do better.

Professor Dr. Abdus Sattar, Principal, Magura Mohila Degree College- says that we cannot denied the importance of English. English make students intelligence. English helps students to understand technology easily so that the students can enter into higher level of education internationally. There are many methods for the people to learn English. To learn English, students should be a student of English, it is not necessary. The students of other departments can be better in English if they study rightly. Firstly, at home, in doing different activities, English has to be used in everyday life. Second, we have to hear English songs, watch TV news and English films, and have to give high attention to the Bangla meanings and the pronunciation of words. And finally, we have to study literature and stories that is available on the internet.

Mst. Reshma Khatun, Lecturer, Department of Management, Magura Adharsha College, Magura- explores that in daily life, English play a vital role in the age of globalization. It is used in the banking activities, bus stops, medical sectors, railway stations, private sectors, airways, educational sector, etc. English is like a trade language all over the world. Lot students go abroad for jobs and receive higher education. If the students receive proper way of learning English in their student life, in the foreign countries they have not face difficulties with the local people. And so the teachers of other disciplines have to learn English properly so that their students can get proper knowledge of English and can solve their practical life problems.

Md. Abdul Alim, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Mathematics, Sreepur Degree College, Magura discusses that in the era of industrialization and globalization, we cannot think a little bit without English. For the industrialization, different types of jobs are open for all. But there is a high competition.

If a student is to be selected, he must have to face a difficult examination. There is a part of English in the examination and the students have to solve the English questions. He may be a student of English department or other departments English is compulsory for all. So, all the students of other disciplines have to know the knowledge of English. This is why the teachers of other disciplines must have the knowledge of English.

Conclusion

English is the most accepted language all over the world. One can communicate in English almost all over the world. In respect of importance it is the greatest of all human language. Among all the languages, English has emerged as the international language, a universal lingua franca of the world. The present day the world has necessitated the learning of English worldwide for reasons other than colonial. Learning of English will help to open the door of store house of knowledge of the world before us. It will take us closer to the societies, cultures and peoples of the world and help us know them better, know each other. The knowledge of English is a prerequisite to get any jobs at home and abroad. English enables us to keep abreast of the fast changing world, especially in the developed world. Everyone should understand that English is important for a better life. Therefore, we should not ignore English. Whatever our discipline is, we have to understand the necessity of English. Without the knowledge of English, we are like a dumb. People are going from one corner to another corner in the blink of the eye or in the twinkling of an eye. To do this, they have not to be a student of English discipline; they have to be an English knowledge based man. Otherwise, the man will be a man of disabled or inactive.

Recommendation

1. Proper way to learn grammatical rules of English has to be ensured for the students as well as teachers of other departments.
2. Proper training has to be ensured for the teachers of other departments.
3. Some diploma courses or short courses can be launched by PATC that will be helpful to enrich

the teachers' speaking knowledge and can achieve their practical teaching knowledge.

4. The management of definite colleges should arrange short training method and the teachers of English department will be the trainers but they will face a test to become a trainer.
5. By every two months the district level government colleges will arrange a teaching meeting of English and will make sub-clusters among the teachers of the colleges of entire district. The authority of the government will give power to the district college to make sub-clusters. Every cluster will present in the teaching meeting by rotation.
6. The district level government college will make a monitoring /visiting Board and the monitoring board will visit the cluster colleges and will try to enrich the quality of the teachers of other disciplines. And by rotation the English teacher will be chairman or a member of monitoring board.
7. English monitoring club has to be built in every upazilla. All the teachers and the students will have to be members of that club.
8. Every cluster has to publish English magazines in every year and students can take part in these activities.
9. Research articles have to be published for every teacher and their promotion will depend on the numbers of articles.
10. The authority will give power to the district level government college to a make a fund that will be needed cluster teaching meeting and
11. Government has to provide cash incentive for the teachers to make research, webinars, seminars and publishing articles.

References

- [1]. Nishanthi, R. (2018). The importance of learning English in today world. *International Journal of Trend in Scientific Research and Development*, 3(1), 871-874.
- [2]. Putra, E., Teknologi, I., & Nopember, S. (2020). The importance of learning English

nowadays. *Jurnal Institute of Technology Sepuluh November at Surabaya*.

- [3]. Weixiang, L., & Peng, Y. (2016, June). The Role of English Language and Literature in Cultivating Students' Language Skills. In *7th International Conference on Education, Management, Information and Computer Science (ICEMC 2017)* (pp. 1236-1239). Atlantis Press.
- [4]. Dash, B. B., & Gandhi, M. K. (2022). Significance of Globalisation and English Language. *International Journal on Studies in English Language and Literature (IJSELL)*, 10(5), 10-16.
- [5]. Al-Jarrah, T. M., Al-Jarrah, J. M., Talafhah, R. H., & Mansor, N. (2019). The role of social media in development of English language writing skill at school level. *International Journal of Academic Research in Progressive Education and Development*, 8(1), 87-99.
- [6]. Malavika, R. & MuthuKrishnan, T. (2021). The Importance of Teaching Speaking Skills. *International Journal of Creative Research Thoughts (IJCRT)*, 9(8), 828-832.
- [7]. Alqahtani, M. (2015). The importance of vocabulary in language learning and how to be taught. *International journal of teaching and education*, 3(3), 21-34.
- [8]. Renjini T. & Puri S. R., (2020). English Language Learning: Challenges and Strategies of Young Learners. *IDC International Journal*, 7(2), 45-49.
- [9]. Hayati, N. (2015). A study of English language learning beliefs, strategies, and English academic achievement of the ESP students of STIENAS Samarinda. *Dinamika Ilmu*, 297-323.
- [10]. Laghari, A., Kakepoto, I., & Arshad, F. (2022). Analyzing English Language Learning Problems of Students through the Lenses of Action Research. *Global Social Sciences Review (GSSR)*, 7(1), 9-16.
- [11]. Rohaizat, N., & Aziz, A. A. (2022). Exploring the Challenges of Language Learning Strategies in Learning the English Language. *International Journal of Academic Research in Business and Social Sciences*, 12(8), 1996-2007.

- [12]. Sari, Z. E. (2021, January). Difficulties and strategies in learning English: An analysis of students from English and non-English education department in Indonesia. In *4th International Conference on Sustainable Innovation 2020–Social, Humanity, and Education (ICoSIHESS 2020)* (pp. 313-331). Atlantis Press.
- [13]. Richards, J. C. (2015). The changing face of language learning: Learning beyond the classroom. *Relc Journal*, 46(1), 5-22.
- [14]. Banditvilai, C., & Cullen, R. (2018). Problems and obstacles in learning English as a Foreign Language. *International Journal of Social Science and Humanity*, 8(12), 289-294.
- [15]. Diep, L. T. N. (2021). English Language Learning Quality at Tertiary Institutions from Learners' Perspective. *J. Legal Ethical & Regul. Issues*, 24, 1.
- [16]. Aram, Y., Sharifi Rahnemo, S., Fathi, A., Rahnemo, M. S., & Aram, F. (2022). The Effectiveness of Teaching English-Language Lessons Using Study Strategies by Producing Video Content on Students' Academic Enthusiasm and Vitality. *Languages*, 7(3), 189.
- [17]. Reddy, M. K. R. K., & Francis, S. K. (2022). English Language Learning Through Print Media. *Global Media Journal*, 20(57), 1-4.