



IMPORTANCE OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE IN INDIA AND TODAY'S WORLD: A BRIEF NOTE

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ABSTRACT This paper is an attempt to discuss the Importance of English Language in India and Today's World: A Brief Note. Due to the importance of English Nowadays, it is our concern, as teachers, to look for different ways to teach this language. The gamma of methods to teach English is vast, but not everybody is conscious of the great importance and utility of this language, and one of the reasons why this happens might be because we have not been using a contextualized situation in which our students can clearly see that by learning this language they can access a world of opportunities. Therefore, context has become so important to make students realize those aspects that give a powerful reason to learn a second language.

KEYWORDS : Importance, English Language, India and World.

INTRODUCTION:

One of the major problems that has engaged our attention in the recent years is the role of English in the different fields of our life. Since independence it has been playing a dominating part in our educational as well as national set up. Today it has become a symbol of people's aspirations for quality in education and a fuller participation in national and international life. The visible impact of this presence of English is that it is today being demanded by everyone at the initial stage of schooling which further adds to the higher level of education too. Consequently, the role and importance of English language in our national curriculum has increased to a greater degree.

The market for English as a Second Language is booming and more individual are studying courses such as this one that will help them improve own accent and understand native English. English learners opt to take English to develop for communication socially with others to become part of global economy.

Importance of English Language in India

The study of English language in this age of globalization is essential. English language is the most important language of communication between different countries. In India, people of different states have their own language. English Language has come us as a connecting link among various states of India.

U.N. has recognized five languages as its official languages and of them English takes the first position because of its background, international acclaim of easy access to the people. If we go back to historical facts, we see that half of the globe was under the British imperialism. Those countries coming directly under British rule had by necessity or under compulsion to learn English and the rest either being influenced by the English culture or to keep pace with modern trend had but to opt for learning it.

The common practice all over the world in the modern age is to learn English language to facilitate easy understanding political, social, cultural and religious issues because this language is easier than French, German, Greek and Sanskrit. It is with the help of this language that we are gaining knowledge of modern science and technology and are keeping ourselves in touch with the most progressive ideas and current thoughts.

English has emerged as the most important global language. It is a wrong view to hold that it is a language of the British alone. English has evolved be a language of science and technology. Majority of all important books for higher studies are written in English. The Indians must not keep their eyes closed in this adventurous period of globalization.

The Importance of the English Language in Today's World

Language is our primary source of communication. It's the method through which we share our ideas and thoughts with others. Some people even say that language is what separates us from animals and makes us human.

There are thousands of languages in this world. Countries have their

own national languages in addition to a variety of local languages spoken and understood by their people in different regions. Some languages are spoken by millions of people, others by only a few thousand.

Why Learn English?

English was originally the language of England, but through the historical efforts of the British Empire it has become the primary or secondary language of many former British colonies such as the United States, Canada, Australia, and India. Currently, English is the primary language of not only countries actively touched by British imperialism, but also many business and cultural spheres dominated by those countries. It is the language of Hollywood and the language of international banking and business. As such, it is a useful and even necessary language to know.

English is the International Common Tongue

There are several factors that make the English language essential to communication in our current time. First of all, it is the most common foreign language. This means that two people who come from different countries (for example, a Mexican and a Swede) usually use English as a common language to communicate. That's why everyone needs to learn the language in order to get in touch on an international level. Speaking it will help you communicate with people from countries all over the world, not just English-speaking ones.

Education

English is also essential to the field of education. In many countries, children are taught and encouraged to learn English as a second language. Even in countries where it is not an official language, such as the Netherlands or Sweden, we will find many syllabi in science and engineering are written in English. Because it is the dominant language in the sciences, most of the research and studies you find in any given scientific field will be written in it as well. At the university level, students in many countries study almost all their subjects in English in order to make the material more accessible to international students.

List of Countries by English Speaking Population

Country	% English Speakers	Total English Speakers
Australia	97.03	17,357,833
Bangladesh	18	29,398,158
Canada	85.63	28,360,240
Egypt	35	28,101,325
France	39	25,500,000
Germany	64	51,584,000
Ghana	66.67	18,000,000
India	10.35	125,226,449
Italy	34	20,300,000
Nigeria	53	82,941,000
Pakistan	49	92,316,049
Philippines	56.63	57,292,884
South Africa	31	16,424,417
Thailand	27.16	17,121,187
United Kingdom	97.74	63,962,000

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Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_by_English-speaking_population

The Internet and Press

On the Internet, the majority of websites are written and created in English. Even sites in other languages often give you the option to translate the site. It's the primary language of the press: more newspapers and books are written in English than in any other language, and no matter where in the world you are, you will find some of these books and newspapers available. In fact, because it is so dominant in international communication, you will find more information regarding nearly every subject if you can speak this language.

Resources Make Learning English Easy

Although many people think that it is very difficult and confusing, English is actually the easiest language of the world to learn because there are so many resources available. As soon as you decide you want to learn, there are thousands of resources on the Internet and in bookstores. I'm not just talking about lessons and grammar books. You can supplement traditional learning materials with children's TV shows and books. I suggest watching as much TV as you can, in English with English subtitles, and you will pick up conversational English in no time.

Travel and Business

With good understanding and communication in English, you can travel around the globe. Because it is the international language for foreigners, it's easy to get assistance and help in every part of world. You can test it by online travel. Any travel booking site you can find will have English as a booking option.

English skills will also help you in any business venture you choose to follow. If you visit some offices, companies, governmental organizations, or even math or engineering companies, you will see the importance of English. Any big company will hire their professional staff after getting to know whether the people they are hiring are good at English or not. Companies who want to function at an international level only consider their staff well educated if they are good English speakers, writers, and readers.

What About The Future?

Although English currently appears to be in an unassailable position in the modern world, its future as a global language is not necessarily assured. In the Middle Ages, Latin seemed forever set as the language of education and culture, as did French in the 18th Century. But circumstances change, and there are several factors which might precipitate such a change once again.

There are two competing drives to take into account: the pressure for international intelligibility, and the pressure to preserve national identity. It is possible that a natural balance may be achieved between the two, but it should also be recognized that the historical loyalties of British ex-colonies have been largely replaced by pragmatic utilitarian reasoning.

As has been discussed, there is a close link between language and power. The USA, with its huge dominance in economic, technical and cultural terms, is the driving force behind English in the world today.

However, if the USA were to lose its position of economic and technical dominance, then the "language loyalties" of other countries may well shift to the new dominant power. Currently, perhaps the only possible candidate for such a replacement would be China, but it is not that difficult to imagine circumstances in which it could happen.

Having said that, though, there may now be a critical mass of English speakers throughout the world which may make its continued growth impossible to stop or even slow. There are no comparable historical precedents on which to base predictions, but it well may be that the emergence of English as a global language is a unique, even an irreversible, event.

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