

HOW TO TEACH GENERAL ENGLISH

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Abstract: *This research aimed to investigate the ways of teaching General English, its importance, instructional strategies, productive factors and its effects while learning.*


Key words: *skills, experience, grammar, natural, accent, speech, comprehension, methods, habits.*

INTRODUCTION

Learning English is considered to be a mandatory subject around the world. Most teachers start to teach young learners the grammar. Although it is a principal way to learn a language, there may occur liabilities with comprehension of the language. In this fast technological and global era, it is easy to learn English language as it is a lingua franca in the entire world. There are several strategies and ways to learn explore General English.

One effective method for teaching General English involves integrating communication skills with grammar instruction, fostering a more natural learning experience. While traditional approaches often emphasize rote memorization of grammatical rules, incorporating interactive activities can enhance students' comprehension and speech. For instance, role-playing scenarios or group discussions allow learners to practice real-life conversations, encouraging them to use correct grammar in context while developing their accent and fluency. Activities like peer interviews or storytelling can also promote active engagement and critical thinking. Additionally, incorporating multimedia resources—such as videos, podcasts, and online language platforms—can expose students to diverse accents and speech patterns, further enriching their learning experience. This variety not only maintains student interest but also helps them recognize different contexts in which language is used. By creating a dynamic classroom environment that prioritizes practical usage over theoretical knowledge, educators can cultivate positive habits in language acquisition, ultimately leading to greater confidence and proficiency in General English. This approach not only addresses the foundational elements of the language but also prepares students to navigate the complexities of communication in a globalized world. Furthermore, ongoing assessments and feedback can help identify individual strengths and areas for improvement, allowing for tailored instruction that meets diverse learner needs. Ultimately, these strategies contribute





to a holistic understanding of English, equipping students with the skills necessary for both academic success and real-world interactions.

Strategies to Improve Reading Comprehension.

Given its importance, developing effective reading comprehension skills is essential. Here are some strategies to enhance these skills:

1. **Active Reading:** Engage with the text by asking questions, making predictions, and summarizing sections. Highlighting key points can also aid retention.
2. **Vocabulary Development:** A strong vocabulary is crucial for understanding complex texts. Encourage reading a variety of genres to expose oneself to new words and phrases.
3. **Practice Regularly:** Consistent reading helps improve comprehension skills. Aim to read daily, whether through books, articles, or other materials.
4. **Discuss Texts:** Sharing insights with others can deepen understanding. Join book clubs or discussion groups to explore different perspectives.
5. **Utilize Graphic Organizers:** Tools like mind maps and charts can help visualize relationships between concepts, aiding in comprehension and retention.

Strategies to Improve Listening Comprehension. Recognizing the importance of listening comprehension, individuals can take proactive steps to enhance this skill.

Here are some effective strategies:

1. **Practice Active Listening:** Engage fully with the speaker by maintaining eye contact, nodding, and responding appropriately. This shows that you are attentive and encourages the speaker to share more.
2. **Limit Distractions:** Minimize background noise and distractions when listening to someone speak. Create an environment conducive to focused listening.
3. **Ask Questions:** Clarify any uncertainties by asking questions. This not only demonstrates interest but also reinforces understanding.
4. **Paraphrase and Summarize:** After listening, paraphrase what you heard to ensure comprehension. Summarizing key points can also reinforce retention.
5. **Engage in Listening Activities:** Participate in activities such as listening to podcasts, audiobooks, or speeches. Take notes and reflect on the content to improve retention and understanding.

Strategies to Improve Writing Comprehension. Given its importance, developing writing comprehension skills is essential. Here are some effective strategies:

1. **Read Widely and Regularly:** Exposure to diverse genres and styles of writing enhances comprehension skills. Reading fiction, non-fiction, articles, and essays broadens understanding and familiarity with different writing techniques.





2. **Annotate Texts:** Take notes while reading to highlight key points, themes, and unfamiliar vocabulary. This active engagement with the text reinforces understanding and retention.

3. **Discuss What You Read:** Engaging in discussions about texts with peers or through book clubs can deepen understanding. Sharing interpretations and insights fosters critical thinking.

4. **Practice Writing:** Regularly writing in various formats—journals, essays, or creative pieces—can enhance comprehension by reinforcing the connection between reading and writing.

5. **Utilize Writing Guides:** Resources that focus on writing techniques, structures, and styles can improve both comprehension and writing skills. Understanding the elements of good writing can make reading more effective.

Strategies to Improve Speaking Comprehension.

Given its importance, developing speaking comprehension skills is essential. Here are some effective strategies:

1. **Active Listening:** Focus on the speaker by maintaining eye contact and minimizing distractions. Engage fully with the conversation to ensure a better understanding of the message.

2. **Ask Clarifying Questions:** If something is unclear, don't hesitate to ask questions. Clarifying doubts demonstrates engagement and helps ensure accurate comprehension.

3. **Practice Reflective Listening:** Summarize what you've heard and repeat it back to the speaker. This technique confirms understanding and shows the speaker that you are actively engaged.

4. **Engage in Conversations:** Regularly participating in discussions, whether in person or online, can enhance speaking comprehension. Engaging with diverse viewpoints broadens understanding and adaptability.

5. **Expose Yourself to Varied Speech:** Listen to podcasts, speeches, or conversations in different accents and dialects. This exposure can help improve your ability to understand spoken language in various contexts.

In conclusion, teaching General English effectively requires a blend of traditional grammar instruction with strategies that promote comprehension and speech fluency. Focusing on natural language use and practicing across different mediums and contexts allows learners to develop better language habits. The skills gained from this balanced approach can lead to greater confidence, a clearer accent, and improved overall communication. The integration of instructional methods that cater to the learners' experiences and exposure to English ensures they can navigate both academic and conversational settings with ease.





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