



THE METHOD OF TEACHING ENGLISH IN PRIMARY CLASSES

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Annotation: This article explores various methods for teaching English to primary school students, emphasizing interactive and engaging techniques to enhance language acquisition. Strategies such as Total Physical Response (TPR), storytelling, phonics instruction, and cultural immersion are discussed, along with the importance of scaffolded instruction and differentiated learning. The article aims to provide educators with practical ideas for creating dynamic English lessons that cater to the diverse needs of young learners.

Key Words: Teaching English, Primary Classes, Total Physical Response (TPR), Storytelling, Phonics Instruction, Games and Activities, Visual Aids, Scaffolded Instruction, Cultural Immersion, Differentiated Instruction

Introduction: Teaching English to primary school students requires innovative methods that cater to their developmental needs and capture their attention. This article explores effective strategies and approaches for teaching English in primary classes, emphasizing interactive and engaging techniques to foster language acquisition.

It is widely known that English is an international and universal language since it is spoken by many people all over the world. English nowadays, is being articulated by not only the citizens of English speaking countries, but also the citizens of other countries. Teaching English in primary school level is naturally much different from teaching the language in other levels of education, such as secondary school or university. Teachers at primary schools, in curriculum component, teach the basic of English for most of the time. One of the basic English materials that the students learn is the list of words with their meaning glossaries known as vocabulary. In primary level kids has knowledge on letter and words. They need to improve their basic grammar and vocabulary part. And for that reading story books in best. It will help to grow their comprehension and vocabulary strength. The teaching of vocabulary can be manifested by learning simple subjects, such as things around us, name of fruit, animals, sport, game and giving instruction.

As I mentioned above, teaching beginners can be a daunting prospect, especially when it's a monolingual group and you know nothing of their language, or it's a multilingual group and the only common language is the English you've been tasked with teaching them. Nevertheless, not only is it possible to teach beginners only through English, but it can also be one of the most rewarding levels to teach. To help you succeed in setting your learners firmly on the path to increasing proficiency, here are some tips for teaching English in primary classes. Keep instructions clear and simple It can be tempting when addressing a class of students, especially ones that you've only just met, to explain activities in your politest language. After all, no one likes to be rude. However, a student who has only a few words of English, if any at all, won't appreciate the courtesy of (or even understand), "OK, so now what I'd like you all to do, if you don't mind, is just to stand up for a moment and come to the front

of the class. Oh, and please bring your book with you. Could we all just do that?" Instead, make instructions crystal clear by using as few words as necessary and by gesturing whenever possible, and break down series of instructions into smaller units. If you want to be polite, "please" and "thank you" will do. "Everybody – take your book, please. Stand up. Now, come here, please. Thank you." Drill, repeat, drill, repeat, drill... Beginners need lots of repetition and drilling, especially as they get to grips with the sounds of their new language. It might seem boring to go over the same sentences again and again, but it is necessary. When practising a new sentence, try back-drilling, breaking the sentence down into manageable units and then building it back up, working backwards from the end of the sentence to the beginning; this helps to ensure that your intonation is natural and that you get elements of connected speech right. For example, break down "Would you like a cup of tea?" as follows: tea > cup of tea > like a > like a cup of tea > Would you > Would you like a cup of tea?

Enjoy Teaching Primary Learners . It seems like common sense, but something which is often overlooked by many teachers. To be successful, you need to enjoy teaching primary aged language learners. You need to be aware at this age that primary young learners are still learning how to hold a pencil, how to use a pair of scissors or even still learning their first language. It can be incredibly rewarding to see the immediate progress from this age range of young learners but you need to be very patient. So my first tip would be that you need to enjoy teaching primary learners. If you have very limited experience or just feel uncomfortable, then it is likely that you will not enjoy the classroom.

Establish a Reward System .Rewarding young learners can be a useful tool to help out with extrinsically motivating learners to complete tasks or activities. With very young learners, I would recommend all teachers to get a stock of stickers of smiley faces or the like so that you can stick them on student work to complement them. Supplement lessons with Songs One thing that I focus a lot with primary-aged learners now is with songs and nursery rhymes. If you have an opportunity to purchase additional material, I would highly recommend Primary Music Box by Cambridge University Press. I was introduced to this resource by the British Council Bucharest, Romania. It is a really really good book which includes a variety of traditional nursery rhymes and activities for very young learners. My favourite task in this book is getting students to match pictures associated with the song, 'The Wheels on the Bus' (a great song for the topic on transport).

Have a Break It is important for primary learners to have regular short breaks during the lesson due to their limited patience to devote to one task. If you are expecting your primary-aged learners to complete quite a complicated project, then it is best to stage it appropriate throughout the day rather than focus on this tasks solidly for most of the morning. Therefore, I would recommend teachers of primary English learners to allow their children to have a regular break after the completion of one task. All things considered, teaching foreign language in primary classes will be much more useful with creative methods and tips than other usual methods. It can be seen with TPR activities. TPR considers comprehension as the highway to language acquisition. So the first goal of TPR is making the pupils understand what the word, phrase, command or expression is all about. There's no push to produce the correct sounds, but there's an invitation for pupils to listen and observe. Mouths are not opened, but eyes and ears are—just like how it happens with children.

Fun teaching methods for young learners.

1. Turn lessons into songs

Every English learner, both native and not, is familiar with, at the very least, one classic jingle. Yes, the ABCs are what we turn to for a reminder of what letter comes after Q. Although the middle part (something about *eliemenopee?*) requires a bit more brain power, the song offers English speakers a comfortable reference point for all their alphabetical needs.

Turning vocab, grammar, and dialogues into catchy tunes is a fabulous method for teaching English to young learners. If you're reviewing common material, try turning to YouTube to see if there's already a suitable song out there. Otherwise, you can hone your inner Beethoven to compose a musical masterpiece using the tune of another easy song, such as Twinkle Twinkle Little Star.

2. Create visual diagrams to illustrate new vocabulary

Head, shoulders, knees, and toes. These are a whole lot easier to point out on a smiling stick man than to write out in a vocabulary list. Visual devices provide a double whammy, too. Students can enjoy coloring or even adding on to pictures, while also absorbing what the new words they are learning *look like*.

Highlighting, underlining, and circling are all common visual tricks adults use to recall snippets of information. Creating visual diagrams is the same basic idea, so that the little ones can start to visualize what English looks like. As a bonus, students can more easily locate learning aids with distinct colors and illustrations among their folders of messy papers.

3. Encourage mnemonic devices to memorize grammar rules

Please Excuse My Dear Aunt Sally, or PEMDAS, is a popular mnemonic device for recalling the order of operations in math. When it comes to teaching English to children, memory aids make it easier to remember hard-to-spell words or complex grammar points. Whether that means creating a mnemonic device in students' native languages or breaking it down into simpler English words, the goal remains the same: better memory!

4. What did you do this weekend? By kicking off class with an expected question, you can get your students thinking about what they'll say long before class even starts. Natural dialogue also introduces students to everyday vocabulary relevant to their own lives and interests.

If you're working with a class, rather than a single student, you can also sprinkle in some side conversations with students as they work diligently on differentiating between *I* and *me*. Ask what's for lunch, how the last soccer game went, or anything at all that gets them excited to share!

5. Break up solitary study sessions with games

Childhood education without games is like chicken wings without seasoning or sauce. You simply can't have one without the other. Games are especially effective teaching methods for young learners (or for any kind of learner — think back to your own TEFL certification program!), because kids are able to learn without realizing it. Active games let them expel some bottled up energy and quiet ones challenge and require concentration.

What are some games to try? Think of some you played as a kid!

- Hangman
- Memory game with card pairs
- 20 Questions
- I Spy
- Simon Says



6. Review vocabulary through role playing

Think theater class with an English twist. Picking up the role of a police officer or elderly neighbor on the spot can be intimidating to any aged student. However, if you have some fun with it and create a more relaxed expectation for students to act out roles, they'll be less stressed about making mistakes.

After all, teaching English to children should be about building up speaking confidence and a solid foundation. The perfect subject-verb-agreement and conjugations can be fine-tuned later!

Pick up some wacky wigs, sunglasses, and hats to help students step into character and feel more like they're acting, not just presenting a dialogue. Once they really embrace their character, you might be shocked to find just how creative the little Shakespeares can get with their new vocabulary!

7. Repeat previous lessons in every class

Assuming the average class duration is only an hour or less, that leaves a whole lot of time in the day to forget everything a student just learned. Children won't retain as much information as adults, so repetition is key in English for young learners.

Rather than calling case closed at the end of a lesson and moving on after a test, be sure to pack every class with tons of repetition from lessons before. This also helps students to use vocabulary and grammar points all together, rather than depend on the same example sentences and templates they learn isolated in each lesson.

8. Get out of the classroom!

If you're a first-time English teacher, the idea of leading kids out into the big, wide world and outside the safe classroom walls may sound like a disaster waiting to happen. But if you're teaching English to young learners in-person and have permission to do so, take the kiddos out on a stroll. The change in scenery opens up a whole new box of situations to practice new vocabulary in its natural habitat.

1. Total Physical Response (TPR): One effective method for teaching English to young learners is Total Physical Response (TPR). TPR engages students in active learning by linking language to physical actions. For example, teachers can demonstrate commands like "stand up" or "clap your hands," allowing students to associate vocabulary with movement.

2. Storytelling and Role-Playing: Storytelling and role-playing are powerful tools for language acquisition. Teachers can narrate simple stories or scenarios, encouraging students to act out characters and dialogue. This approach enhances comprehension and vocabulary acquisition while fostering creativity and confidence in speaking.

3. Visual Aids and Multimedia: Visual aids and multimedia resources enhance engagement and comprehension in English lessons. Teachers can use flashcards, pictures, videos, and interactive apps to illustrate vocabulary, grammar concepts, and pronunciation. These visual aids cater to diverse learning styles and reinforce language retention.

4. Games and Activities: Incorporating games and activities into English lessons adds an element of fun and motivation. Language games like Bingo, Simon Says, or Memory Match reinforce vocabulary and grammar in an enjoyable context. Additionally, group activities such as scavenger hunts or role-playing games promote collaboration and communication skills.

5. Phonics Instruction: Phonics instruction is essential for developing reading and spelling skills in primary students. Teachers can use phonics-based activities to teach letter-sound

correspondence, blending, and decoding. Activities like word building with letter tiles or phonics songs make learning phonics interactive and memorable.

6. **Scaffolded Instruction:** Scaffolded instruction provides structured support for students as they learn new English language concepts. Teachers gradually release responsibility to students, starting with guided practice and progressing to independent application. This approach ensures comprehension and mastery of language skills at each stage of learning.

7. **Cultural Immersion and Authentic Materials:** Exposing students to authentic English language materials and cultural experiences enhances language learning. Teachers can incorporate songs, stories, and traditions from English-speaking countries, providing context and relevance to language lessons. Virtual cultural exchanges or pen pal programs also foster cross-cultural communication skills.

8. **Differentiated Instruction:** Differentiated instruction acknowledges the diverse learning needs and abilities of students in the classroom. Teachers adapt lesson content, pace, and materials to accommodate varying proficiency levels and learning styles. Individualized tasks, peer tutoring, or flexible grouping ensure that all students are challenged and supported.

Conclusion: Teaching English in primary classes requires a dynamic and student-centered approach that sparks curiosity and fosters language development. By incorporating interactive methods such as TPR, storytelling, games, and authentic materials, teachers can create engaging English lessons that empower students to communicate confidently and fluently.

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