

CHALLENGES AND PROBLEMS IN LEARNING SPEAKING AND LISTENING SKILLS IN ENGLISH

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INTRODUCTION

Today, English has become one of the most important international languages in the world. It is widely used in education, science, technology, business, and international communication. Therefore, improving English language skills is considered one of the main goals of modern education. Among the four basic language skills—listening, speaking, reading, and writing—speaking and listening are often regarded as the most challenging. These two skills require learners not only to know grammar and vocabulary but also to understand real-life communication and respond appropriately.

Many English language learners face difficulties in expressing their thoughts fluently and understanding native speakers. These problems are influenced by several factors, including limited vocabulary, incorrect pronunciation, lack of confidence, insufficient listening practice, and traditional teaching methods.

MAIN PART

Speaking and listening are the foundation of successful communication. Common speaking problems include limited vocabulary, incorrect pronunciation, fear of making mistakes, and lack of speaking practice. Listening problems include fast speech, different accents, unknown vocabulary, and insufficient exposure to authentic materials. Effective solutions include communicative teaching methods, pair work, group discussions, presentations, role plays, podcasts, movies, AI tools, and regular practice. Motivation and supportive classroom environments significantly improve learners' performance.

CONCLUSION

Speaking and listening remain two of the most challenging aspects of English language learning. These difficulties can be overcome through regular practice, communicative teaching methods, effective use of technology, and supportive classroom environments. Continuous practice, confidence, and motivation are the keys to success.

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