

THE ROLE OF TEACHER IN TEACHING FOREIGN LANGUAGE TO DIFFERENT AGE LEARNERS: ADAPTATION TO THE CLASSROOM

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Abstract: *This article discusses the role of teachers in teaching foreign languages to learners of different ages. It explains the importance of teachers in the learning process and describes the difficulties they may face while teaching students with different abilities, interests, and learning styles. The article also focuses on adaptation to the classroom, the use of effective teaching methods, and the importance of motivation and communication between teachers and students. In addition, it highlights how a positive classroom environment and modern teaching approaches can help students improve their language learning skills.*

Key words: *foreign language teaching, teacher's role, classroom adaptation, different age learners, teaching methods, motivation, interactive learning, classroom environment, individual approach, language acquisition*

In the modern world, learning a foreign language is very important. At the same time, many opportunities are being created for language learners. However, learners may face several difficulties during the learning process. In such situations, qualified and knowledgeable teachers play an important role in helping them. The role of the teacher in language learning is very significant. Especially when teaching students of different ages, teachers may face various challenges. Therefore, they have a great responsibility.

Every learner has different thinking abilities, learning styles, interests, and motivations. It is difficult for a teacher to give equal knowledge to all students in the same way. Therefore, a teacher must be very patient and understanding during the teaching process. The teacher should listen to students' needs and also effectively use different teaching methods.

Learning is an inherently purposeful discursive process that organizes and pushes classroom interactions but which also occurs beyond educational and curricular activities. Learning is subjective and involves the reproduction and transformation of participants' roles, dispositions, knowledge, and practices. However, learning interactions are not harmonious but rife with tension. We need a theory of adaptation to make visible those tensions that lead to learning.

In addition, teachers should be able to create new methods and approaches based on students' learning abilities. Only then can a teacher manage students

effectively and demonstrate their full knowledge and skills. Students also have their own mistakes and weaknesses, and the teacher must correct them in a proper and timely manner. Each student is a unique individual with different characteristics. For example, in a class of 20 students, there may be 20 different opinions, 20 different worldviews, 20 different learning abilities, and 20 different types of mistakes. Therefore, teachers must work hard and continuously improve themselves. At the same time, students also have responsibilities in the learning process. In many cases, the teacher's role is important because students are still young and lack sufficient knowledge and experience. They need a teacher who can guide them, show the difference between right and wrong, and help them become responsible individuals in society. Students should be able to learn from their mistakes before becoming independent members of society, especially when teachers provide correct guidance and prevent them from repeating the same mistakes. Even if a teacher is highly knowledgeable, if they lack teaching experience, they may face difficulties in delivering knowledge effectively. For example, having a C1 or C2 English certificate shows language proficiency, but it does not always guarantee teaching ability. That is why today, many educational institutions evaluate teaching skills separately from language proficiency. Therefore, in modern education, both teaching ability and language knowledge are highly valued. In general, teaching and learning is a continuous process where both teachers and students must work together to achieve success.

As one researcher states: "To live is to learn. Every new information acquisition involves a learning process. Most of what we learn happens spontaneously and without thinking. The misconception that learning is possible only at a young age and under someone's guidance has long been outdated, and the role of school in learning has thus been somewhat relativized. On the other hand, experience with other foreign languages can act as an aid to learning. School education plays a fundamental role in lifelong learning of a foreign language. Learning is an active process. Today, we are increasingly beginning to realize the fundamental errors we make in our perceptions of school and learning. For a long time, there was such an idea that the learner passively receives what is taught to him. The teacher teaches new words, and the student shows how he learned them in his classwork."

This means that school education provides the basic foundation for future learning.

When teaching foreign languages, the most important aspects are teacher attention, trust, and evaluation of each student. Especially young learners try to achieve good results in their studies. An individual approach to each student plays an important role in increasing their interest in language learning. Today, interactive games and activities are becoming an important part of classroom teaching, helping students improve their skills, focus, and knowledge.

The classroom environment also has a strong influence on both teachers and students. Both must adapt to the environment and also create a positive learning atmosphere. The teacher should first adapt to the teaching environment and then focus on other aspects. Each classroom is different in terms of students' background, worldview, and knowledge level. Therefore, one teaching method cannot work equally in all situations.

Now that Ms. Begay understands the learning process, she can better meet the needs of her students through instructional adaptations. Teachers often find it necessary to adapt their instruction for students with disabilities who are taught in the general education classroom if those students are to have full access to the general education curriculum. Adapting instruction can be defined as making changes to instruction in order to allow students equal access to the curriculum and to give them the opportunity to process and demonstrate what has been taught.

In addition, a teacher should not only be a knowledge provider but also a motivator and psychologist. Some students may feel shy or afraid of making mistakes when learning a foreign language. In such situations, the teacher should encourage them, avoid criticizing mistakes harshly, and appreciate even small progress. A positive classroom environment increases students' interest in language learning. When students feel comfortable, they are more confident in speaking and learn faster.

In conclusion, the role of a teacher in teaching foreign languages to different age learners is extremely important. A successful teacher should not only have strong language knowledge but also teaching skills, patience, creativity, and the ability to adapt to different classroom environments. Effective teaching depends on cooperation between teachers and students. When both sides actively participate, better learning results can be achieved. Therefore, continuous self-development and adaptation are essential for every modern teacher.

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