



Journal of Applied Sciences

ISSN 1812-5654

science
alert

ANSI*net*
an open access publisher
<http://ansinet.com>

A Research on the Newspaper Resources as a Means of EFLT

Yan Li and Xueqing Yue

Qinhuangdao Institute of Technology, 066100, Qinhuangdao, People's Republic of China

Abstract: Foreign language teaching as a complex educational activity needs original language as the teaching resources. In foreign language teaching activities, English newspapers with its fast update rate, inclusiveness and the authenticity of the language has a more obvious advantages than traditional teaching materials. Foreign language press material as a new teaching mode has opened up a new path for the foreign language classroom activities and plays a great role in promoting foreign language teaching.

Key words: Newspaper resources, EFLT, means

INTRODUCTION

Richards *et al.* (2000) said: "Foreign language teaching is a complicated educational activity, involving a variety of teaching mechanism". Piske and Young-Scholten divided them into four groups: Proximity to spoken language, equality of four skills, teaching/learning materials and internal and external interferences of educational setting. The ideal teaching activities should be that binding the four kinds of teaching mechanism effectively and maximizing their advantages. Many studies have found that the source language input or real language context learning is the most effective way to promote foreign language learning.

The new "English curriculum standard" points out that the English curriculum should strive to rationally use and develop curriculum resources, providing students with healthy content and rich curriculum resources which close to reality, students' life and times; to make use of video, television, books and magazines, network information and other materials to expand channels of learning and using English; to encourage and support students to take participate in the development and utilization of the curriculum resources. Effective learning requires students to contact and use the language from different ways as much as possible while the use of English newspapers and magazines as learning resources is a good supplement and extension to English teaching and it also can be an important effect for cultivating students' comprehensive abilities to use language.

LANGUAGE AND ITS ROLE

What is language? Language is defined according to its function, nature structure and other descriptions. Ci Hai, a well known Chinese lexicon and character dictionary,

published in 1936 said that Language is the most important tool for human communication, it has close relationship with human thinking and it is a means of expressing ideas, also an information carrier of human society. Different people have different definitions about language, but it is generally believed that language is the most important communication tool, it is a system composed of vocabulary and grammar. Shuxiang Lv's definition is the realest and easier to understand. Generally, language is not only what we say but also includes some body languages.

Role of language: Linguistics thinks that language is the most important tool for human communication, is the tools of human thinking. Language can serve to express, exchange ideas, to eliminate misunderstanding, to draw closer and to broaden the understanding. The purpose of our talk is to communicate, we understand the world through communication and language is the window to understand the world. The rapid development of global integration makes learning a foreign language become very necessary. We learn a foreign language is to understand the world, but also in the process of understanding the world we promote the exchange of language. We can know the world through different ways, such as audio and video, TV, Internet, newspapers and magazines. The process of communication is the process of language speaking, the accuracy of oral expressions matters a lot to the quality of communication, thereby affecting our understanding of the world.

Importance of the source language in foreign language learning: In recent years, along with the constantly enrich of teaching experience, to use which kind of teaching materials can improve the efficiency of foreign language learning is many teachers' concern. Through the

use of the source language text materials, students can touch the real language content. They can understand the target language culture better, so as to enhance the understanding of the nation and society of the target language.

So, what is the source language?

About the source language materials, people have the following basic explanations:

- Source language materials from social interaction, is generated in order to achieve a social goal
- They are produced for some purpose, but these purposes do not include teaching objective
- A source language text has no relationship with teaching practice and the teaching objective originally and it is a product of social communication
- Source language text, its language comes from the national communication between users (Rideout, 2003)

With the development of society and the progress of science and technology, we can get the source language materials through various means. Make full use of the source language materials can make students master the ability to communicate with the world, the revolution of information technology and the popularization of the Internet provides help for it. Research shows that foreign language learning should base its content on the target material and the most effective method to improve the ability of oral English is to learn the most authentic target language materials.

SUPERIORITY OF NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS RESOURCES AS THE SOURCE LANGUAGE IN FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING

The source language input has the efficient language acquisition nature for learners of different learning. Second language acquisition is the processes by which people develop proficiency in a second or foreign language. These processes are often investigated with the expectation that information about them may be useful in language teaching. The term “second language acquisition” has been used particularly in the US by researchers interested in (Bauer and Trudgill, 1999).

Characteristics of periodicals

Fast updates: The role of the press is to provide people various news, It is synchronized with the development of social life and the content update fast, therefore it includes many information.

Inclusiveness: The press is the carrier of numerous contents. If we say it covers and contains everything is not excessive. A newspaper resource also contains different types, different subject content, it can offer the reader information in multi-angle and multi-dimension.

Liveness and realness: Language development is selective, advancing with the times and can be updated, reflecting the characteristics of an era, like the word Knight in modern English is rarely used, except appearing in some literary works. With the development and changes of the times, AIDS, SARS, Fuwa, H7N9 has become a hot contemporary word, therefore, newspapers and periodicals resources are more innovative, more integration with the times and they are from the true expression of objective facts, therefore their language have more authenticity (Wells, 1982).

Newspapers and periodical resources VS traditional curriculum resources:

The new curriculum requires teachers to carry out teaching activities with the teaching material, rather than simply teach materials. In teaching, teachers must use teaching materials selectively, constructively, creatively. In teaching, giving priority to newspapers and periodicals resources as language learning materials is more effective than the traditional curriculum resources in the process of use. Newspapers and periodicals resources compared with traditional resources, the difference is manifested in the following aspects:

- **Amount of information:** Newspapers and periodicals resources include all aspects of information, newspaper articles are new, concise, real, infective and it keeps pace with the development of times. With the development of science and technology and the progress of the society, new words appear ceaselessly, the most extensive and direct expression is the press

The traditional curriculum resource contains limited content and information and the content are almost written by national experts and scholars. Obviously, teaching content can only follow their way of thinking, the amount of information have certain limitations which violates the overall principle in foreign language learning to some extent

Therefore, newspapers and periodicals resources is far better than the traditional teaching materials in the amount of information because of its fast update speed and great

- **Inclusiveness:** Foreign language learning is not only the language, the more important is the thinking, so

choosing foreign language teaching material content is particularly important. Newspapers and periodicals resource materials are generally out of the target country, most of the main writers are target language-speakers. Their true expressions better reflect their culture and way of thinking. After a period of study, the way we think will change accordingly and it is easier for us to master a foreign language, it also lays a good foundation for our future cross-culture communication

The traditional text content is obsolete and is backward to the development of the times, can not keep pace with times. The biggest feature of language is the update speed. The traditional teaching material is generally selected from "classic" material and it lasted for several generations. Some college English majors have been "classic" for more than a decade and has never been updated. Why primary school textbooks have been revised, the university teaching material, as closely connected with the actual social and life has always been in a "classic" up to now. We must understand that the classic is not practical. Therefore we must dare to break through the stereotypes and do not be afraid of making a progress in choice of some teaching materials. The traditional textbooks and newspapers, one is to let you feel the "classic" but does not have much practical significance to students' future development, the other one is to let you feel its complex content but is of great help for their future occupation. Obviously, in the teaching of Foreign Languages Press resources is more superior to traditional materials

ROLE OF NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS IN FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING

Newspapers and materials as a new English teaching method in foreign language teaching has injected new vitality for teaching, leading a new development direction, its role in foreign language teaching is mainly manifested in.

Promote vocabulary teaching, improve English proficiency: Demanding of the new curriculum on vocabulary teaching has become increasingly serious, newspaper materials has a relative advantage to traditional teaching materials in the content and the efficiency and thus become the first choice of the auxiliary vocabulary teaching curriculum resources. In the process of using English newspapers and materials a large vocabulary will emerge constantly, student will encounter

new words, they must rely on tools such as dictionaries, in the query process conscious attention and unconscious intention will play their role. In the process of reading, the same word has a different meaning in different contexts which requires students to master the vocabulary comprehensively. English newspapers material has a role in promoting the vocabulary learning, but also improves students' proficiency in language learning.

Improve the ability to gain information, develop self-learning ability: Today, with the rapid development of information technology, let students get a certain amount of information in a limited time is critical. There is no doubt newspapers cover an amount of information that a textbook can not bear. To read newspapers continuously, not only student's language input increase, their reading comprehension skills will gradually increase, but it also improve their English writing skills. Limited classroom time can not allow students to complete all the learning tasks, students must arrange their time reasonably, read independently and according to their own learning, focus their attention on certain knowledge selectively, this will also cultivate students' self-learning ability.

Rational use of press material will expand students' horizons: Newspapers and material selection is extensive and covers all aspects of political, economic, cultural, social and world, students can understand the information in the process of reading, learn the social development and its current situation and master a variety of new things.

Develop students' cross-cultural awareness: As China becomes more powerful, exchanges and cooperation opportunities between China and the world are increasing, more attention has been paid to intercultural communication. Modern English teaching focus more attention on cross-cultural communication in addition to the basic knowledge, awareness of intercultural communication has become an important teaching objectives of modern English education. English newspapers as English teaching materials supply a theory platform for students' intercultural communication on the depth and breadth, it is a true portrayal of the personal and social life of the target language countries, some newspapers and learning materials can stimulate students' cross-cultural awareness, students can analysis the different cultures in the learning process, contrast and ask questions and discuss to deepen the understanding of the national culture of the target language.

CONCLUSION

Newspapers and periodicals resources as a new teaching mode in classroom has opened up a new path for foreign language teaching, as the source of language material, it can promote student learning because of its authenticity and inclusiveness, can it can adapt to the new curriculum standard, providing the source language materials for learners in foreign language learning, improve students' ability to use language, expand their knowledge, cultivate students' cross-cultural awareness, it is the most effective learning materials. We should see the benefits English newspapers and periodicals material bring to us, we must abandon the old teaching mode, build a new teaching system, improve the curriculum, make full use of newspapers and periodicals to promote the development of the new curriculum of English teaching.

REFERENCES

- Bauer, L. and P. Trudgill, 1999. *Language Myths*. 1st Edn., Penguin Books Ltd., London, UK.
- Richards, J.C., J. Platt and H. Platt, 2000. *Longman Dictionary of Language Teaching and Applied Linguistics*. 1st Edn., Foreign Language Teaching and Research Press, UK., pp: 178-179.
- Rideout, P.M., 2003. *Heinle's Basic Newbury House Dictionary of American English*. 2nd Edn., Thomson Heilen, USA., ISBN-13: 9780838426562, Pages: 512.
- Wells, J.C., 1982. *Accents of English: Volume 1*. 1st Edn., Cambridge University Press, USA., ISBN: 9780521246484, Pages: 232.