

TECHNIQUES TO IMPROVE ENGLISH SPEAKING SKILLS

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Annotation: The English language learners usually have difficulties over achieving a meaningful speech while expressing their opinions clearly during the lessons as their vocabulary is frequently limited, or they have personal internal drawbacks such as hesitation or feeling shy. Considering these actual problems, the article deals with finding optional ways to improve and enhance students speaking skills.

Keywords: speaking skills, language proficiency, techniques, upper intermediate level, advanced level.

English learners want to improve their speaking skills. There is no limit to perfection! Students want to feel comfortable communicating in a foreign language and to understand local residents. Like written English, special techniques can help develop speaking skills. There are some techniques, which help to improve the speaking skills of learners:

- Talking. If students are studying English in their own country, they should communicate more with classmates in English, they should find a language partner, or they can join the language learning community.
- Analyzing. After finishing the conversation, students should take some time and analyze it. How did it go? How much do they understand? Have they come across unfamiliar words? A little analysis of the conversation will increase their confidence next time and let them know what more work needs to be done.
- Listening and reading. Students need a vocabulary to carry on a conversation. Learning vocabulary in the classroom is great, but there are other ways to increase their vocabulary: watching movies, listening to music, radio, podcasts, reading books, magazines, and blogs. As they read and listen to various materials, they should find new interesting expressions and write them out. Just they should not forget to use them in conversation in order to remember faster!
- Talking on the phone. Many people find telephone conversations particularly difficult. The reason is that on the phone, we do not see people's movements and expressions on their faces. In this case, students can use their friends to train! For this, they ask friends to talk to them on the phone, even if they want to write on Telegram. Hearing a person's voice is much more pleasant than receiving emoticons in messengers.
- Recording voice. Most people do not like listening to their voice, but this is a very successful way to improve learners' spoken language! Writing will help them to pay attention to things that they might not have noticed or will pleasantly surprise them with what they say better than their expectations! For added benefit, students can have a teacher or native speaker listen to it for their opinion.
- Learning phrases, not words. People communicate not in separate words but logical phrases and sentences. Instead of the phrase "Hello! How are you?" students can choose something less primitive like "How are you?" (What's up? Hey, dude!). They should be careful: some expressions may be informal and inappropriate in some situations!

- Enjoying. It is much easier to learn the English language when students enjoy it. Learners are able to throw in serious practice with humorous practice: singing along to popular songs in English, practicing tongue twisters, or making up a speech in case of an Oscar or Grammy.

From Upper-Intermediate to Advanced:

At the Upper-Intermediate level, many students bump into an invisible wall. There are not so many teaching materials for their level, and even teachers for their request are not easy to find. Many courses and teachers specialize in taking their level to Intermediate / Upper Intermediate or preparing for exams. However, they do not have to look for some kind of special courses and study programs. After upper intermediate, their level already allows them to go free swimming in English. The whole theory is passed. Further - only practice. Watching movies and memorizing new words from them is the most useful way. Reading texts and saving unfamiliar phrases is also a profitable technique during the learning process.

Another useful technique for advanced English learners is talking to a native speaker. At their level, they need to learn to think like a native speaker, get rid of the Uzbek-speaking mother of constructing sentences, the learner should work out an accent and learn to feel as comfortable in a conversation with a native English speaker as with a native Uzbek speaker.

The higher the level, the more competent and beautiful learners' speech is. At higher levels, they will need to master phrasal verbs, common idioms, collocations, and slang. Here they will no longer be able to be silent and just memorize expressions. If they really want to learn how to speak, then they will need to practice. This can be done with friends who are also learning or already speak English, in conversation clubs, or with real foreigners. The latter can be found on various sites like WeSpeke or iTalki. On these sites, they can find both regular native speakers and qualified teachers. With the former, they can correspond and communicate via video communication, with the latter, they can practice pronunciation and practice of speech skills. Also, they can find a so-called Language Buddy or English Friend - a native speaker who can correct their mistakes and will be happy to chat with them on various topics. Sometimes the process can be mutually beneficial if a foreigner is learning Uzbek or another language they know.

In conclusion, students should participate in conversation clubs, read aloud to remove language barriers, improve their accent, and get used to their own voice in English. They just need to come to terms with this and move on. Students should stay motivated, keep learning new words, and practice grammar.

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