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The teaching of vocabulary to primary level learners

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Abstract:

Vocabulary is an important part of teaching and learning a new language. The meaning of vocabulary is the set of words known to an individual. The word vocabulary originated from the Latin word vocabulum, means a word, name. It is important in communication; convey thoughts, ideas, emotions and information. Vocabulary is of two types active vocabulary and passive vocabulary. Words which can use regularly is an active vocabulary and words which can recognize but does not use often is a passive vocabulary. Vocabulary is the basic element of language which someone needs in learning a language especially to communicate effectively with others. In this article writer summaries, the steps of teaching vocabulary and the techniques and methods of teaching vocabulary.

Keywords: *Vocabulary, teaching of vocabulary, learners.*

Introduction:

English is an international language. In India the first language is the mother tongue of the learner, second is the national language which is Hindi and the third language have been learned is the English. In the primary school when a learner is admitted for learning comes with few words and some regular usable sentences. By the listening and the learning of reading the knowledge of new words increases day by day means vocabulary of the learner increases as he/she learns to read and write. Learning of new vocabulary is the process with learning a new language. In other word a new language can't be learn without vocabulary. Literacy is a social practice, so students learn academic vocabulary through social interactions as member of the learning community (Scott, Naggy & Flispatch, 2008 P.197). The effective teachers of language provide practices of developing vocabulary and knowledge of word. For this he used different types of techniques and arranged the various activity in the classroom.

Steps of teaching vocabulary:

1) Providing the rich and varied language-

In the process of the teaching vocabulary teacher provides incidental words to encourage the learners to participate in variety of rich language experiences with the help of activities arrange in classroom. In the classroom large number of pictures with their names, a picture dictionary, wall painting of spellings, teaching aids and chart of the words can increase the vocabulary of the student also it increases the participation of learners in the classroom.

2) Teaching individual word-

Although many words may be learned incidentally but there are some vocabularies which requires some special practice to learn. The way to learn new word 1) provide some information about the word.2) arrange activities to learn the word.3) learners have to exposure and practice the word.4) create a dialogue around the word.

3) Teaching learning strategies-

There are various strategies to learn new word. Mainly word may be more familiar to learner by using meaning of surrounding. Teacher should use the direct method by avoiding translation method. In the direct method a lesson can teach with the help of teaching aids and directly a content has taught.

4) Building consciousness-

Learning a new word has to become a habit to learner is the main aim of learning language. This habit will helpful for learners to develop themselves in communication as well as writing some useful material for other learner, it is the ultimate goal of learning of language.

Techniques for teaching Vocabulary:

There are some techniques for teaching vocabulary as follows-

1) Showing pictures:

One picture is equal to 1000 words hence the teacher should use media like pictures, drawings, charts, flashcards, tables or statics. The word which can show by picture can easily learn and it imprints on learner's mind for long time. E.g. if teacher wants to teach a word 'earth', for that he can use the picture of the earth. It is the technique in which the large number of words can learn easily. For younger learner it is the useful tools.

2) Using Realia:

Realia means real object that can be seen by the learners to understand the meaning of the word. Though this technique has some limitations but for the primary level learners it is an effective and useful method. The impact of the word remains for long time. The whole learners of the classroom can easily understand the word in their own language.

3) Action and gesture:

Some word can teach through action or gesture. This technique is mainly used for verbs i.e.action words e.g. run, walk, jump, eat, drink etc.

Enumeration

If teacher finds difficulty in explaining the new word teacher add some related word to it to understand the meaning.

4) **Explanation:**

Sometimes the words are difficult to learners to learn easily at that time teacher have to describe the word by giving explanation with help of sentence which introduce the word very well.

5) **Translation:**

Mostly for the difficult words teacher uses this traditional technique, which help the learner to understand the meaning in mother tongue.

These are some techniques of the teaching and learning of vocabulary. With the help of these techniques an effective teacher can increase learner's vocabulary, which can be helpful to increase the skill of listening, speaking, reading, writing and comprehension.

Assessment of vocabulary development:

To study the result of the steps and of the teaching vocabulary here we discuss some tools of the assessment of the vocabulary. An effective teacher can evaluate the learners by using these tools.

1) **Word identification:**

By showing the pictures or objects learner have to understand the proper word with its meaning. e.g., if the teacher shows the picture of Lion, then learner has to identify the word with its proper meaning.

2) **Word meaning:**

The identification of the word means not only the spelling but also the use of the word at right place. Here learner should identify the word about its proper use in the sentence, singular/plural, its gender, if it is the action word then about the tense of the sentence, all these factors have to understand while learning the meaning of the word.

3) **Reading of the word:**

The use of proper phonetics the word should read correctly. In the reading learner has to pronounce the word properly and while reading a sentence the intonation of word, types of sentences is it question or a command, is it a plain sentence or an exclamatory sentence all these things have to understand and then the reading of a word or a sentence supposed to be a correct.

4) **Writing of the word:**

As similar to the reading a word learner has to write a word properly with its correct

spelling and proper shape of the alphabet. The writing of a word or a sentence is the higher step of evaluation. If any learner is writing a word by their own means he/she identifies word, he/she knows the meaning of word, he/she can read that word. If a question is like see the picture and write down the name of the picture, in this question above steps has been more important.

In this way the researcher has summaries the steps of teaching vocabulary with effective techniques. In the classroom teacher should use these steps to develop the skill of listening, speaking, reading and writing. Vocabulary is the basic components of a language and its important remain constant in teaching and learning a new language hence all the language teacher has to pay the attention on different strategies of teaching vocabulary. There are some more techniques to teach vocabulary but for younger learner these are the basic and foundational methods.

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