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A critical study on communication skill for civil engineering student from rural areas

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ABSTRACT

In the era of the world, English is the much more broadly spoken language. It is spoken the English language almost surrounding world and has achieved in the minds and hearts of people especially from the rural students want to learn the second language in any situation or condition. Communication is one of the media for expressing our ideas, views, thought, feelings and emotions to each other. Every parent wants their children to learn English for which they are ready to spend any amount of physical labor and financial assistance. The daily wager expected to his children to study in the English medium schools for the development of communication. This awareness of communication has come among the rural people. English has become common and official language of the people today in the computer world in India which is multi-cultural country. English is introduced here at the primary level and secondary level and its inclusion continue until the tertiary level of education. Most of the students of the primary schools in rural areas are weak in the English language due to unskilled and untrained teachers who are familiar to the modern methods and availability of lack of materials for teaching in the classroom. People and students from rural areas who are want to acquire the speaking skills of English by any sources, coaching centers, spoken English classes etc. It is must need of the hour for rural students to learn the importance of speaking skills of English today.

Keywords— English language, Communication, Engineering, Professional, Civil Engineering, Construction

1. INTRODUCTION

Engineering is prior to one of the biggest fields of study and many works of researchers and academics are recorded in English. Without fluency in English, engineering students may fail in their career. Also, many modules of workshop, seminar, and lectures of engineering have required writing academic reports in English. Hence, a good fluency and grasp of the English language are must necessary. English is one of the most widely spoken languages and also writing skill around the world. English language fluency is much more important for an engineer and also engineering student both in studies and careers. Communication skills are required to speak with a broad variety of people for maintaining good eye contact, demonstrate a varied vocabulary and tailor your language to your audience, an idea can be present appropriately, write clearly and concisely, and work well in a group.

Many students want to study in civil engineering that's coming from rural areas. English language and communication skills are much more problematic for them because all study and work of laboratory and technical book and writing skill in the English language. First of all the English language is a big tool for engineering students in academic life and social life. While most of the assumptions and lectures in engineering are taught in English, it has required having good English communication proficiency. In academic life, engineering students have to deal with all lectures, tutorials, practical labs, project reports, and seminar and exam papers in English [1].

English language is the part of communication skill and also used in the international market business, and construction industry, construction technology, aviation, diplomacy, the banking industry and also the tourism department. About 1/5th of people all over the world having good knowledge of English and also spoken English by approx 1.8-2.5 billion people in the whole world. Almost university in the world is conducting scientific research studies in English. More than 80% of the mailing content or correspondences are written in the English language. English is the world's best language of the 21st century. 70% population of worlds, using English for communication. An Engineer who speaks fluent English can survive in their field; otherwise, he will outdated in the world [5].

There are almost segments in the construction industry like as real estate, infrastructures building which includes roads, railways, power, ports, harbor, etc [6]. Communication skill is the biggest problem in the construction industry for an upcoming civil

engineer who's from rural areas because they are using regional language day by day and also unaware of personality development and job opportunity. We can speak clearly and firmly without being aggressive. As communication is one of opportunity to become a best in their field, it was almost impossible for any civil engineer to survive in their career without it. Without proper communication enables the civil engineer to share their experiences and feelings with each other in a construction project. Many People coming from various different cultures with professions use different varieties of languages according to their profession, Civil Engineering, which has an international connection for their project, needs a language which is used all world language. Recently the globalization world, communication which serves as a priority professional career in engineering professionals [2]. Communication skills have a most important role for an engineer's job in the industry, Many professional Civil Engineer employed in the construction industry have identified their education in communication skills must need to be improved upcoming demands in construction industry [8].

For professional purposes, Communication skills are a common task for the upcoming engineer for their career opportunity. Here are some of the reasons:

- Today's scenario in the world, employers seek postgraduates and undergraduates with sound communication skills, along with technical engineering knowledge.
- Good communication skills having a valuable asset for any organization. The English language has set in higher goal in the profession for any organization.

2. ENGLISH GLOBALISATION AND ENGINEERING

This is important for graduate engineering students as indicate that English may be more useful internationally than almost any other language due to its spread. English is cited as the ... the *biggest language of international business, diplomacy, and science and the professions* [11]. English is the prior language for communication and also serve as the *globalized language* between two people from two different societies where English is not the native tongue. [12] The entire goal of English learning is to develop the four language skills i.e. Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. Mostly Grammar-Translation word process used to teach English. The student has learned how to communicate properly through written letters without any grammatical mistakes. These four languages are much more required for upcoming civil engineering students who are from rural areas to improve communication.

Now the time has become different. The communication is also globalized surrounding the world. In the Globalized World, there is a necessary of people who have the development of speaking and writing skills. Their communication has effectively and efficiently for graduate's engineer.

3. IMPORTANCE OF ENGLISH COMMUNICATION FOR CIVIL ENGINEERING STUDENTS

After getting the job, they are needed to work in major groups since their task be solved by an individual engineer. So, being an engineer required co-company and communicating with different people from different various areas of the world. English is used as the working language on large scale in the construction industry. To co-ordinate with the colleagues and university, engineers have to speak fluent English, especially who is from rural areas because they are using speak regional language day by day so this is a major problem for them. So, English is playing an important role in communication in the academic life and career of engineering students [5]. A major portion of a civil engineer's job description is documenting and writing reports regarding a project's progress and deliverables. Since most projects employ engineers and other allied personnel from various parts of India, the de facto language for any and all communication (written or verbal) is English. Some of the best texts in civil engineering are written by native speakers of English. The institution of Civil Engineers (ICE), UK and American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) are some of the best publishers for everything civil engineering. Most civil engineering journals (ICJ, etc) in India are published exclusively in English. All codes and specifications are published in English - BIS, IRC, NBC, etc. So, yes, the English language is very important in civil engineering, especially if you want to become a professional civil engineer.

Good English communication and writing skill and technical reports and business letters are part of being a good civil engineer if they want to reach a high position such as being a Project Manager/ General Manager or being the head of their own firm. Most international codes like as BIS, ASTM, US are in English. If they only work in their country where people do not know the English language, but globalization, English is still important for the working environment. In an international project, they need English to communicate with the owner, consultants, architects, designers, contractors and many professions involved.

3.1 Definition of communication

Communication is a method of exchanging or transmitting messages between sender and receiver. There are different kinds of communication, interpersonal communication, intrapersonal communication, verbal communication, non-verbal communication, written communication, oral communication etc. No matter whichever form of communication it might be, the most important purpose of communication is to exchange message, ideas, feelings, and experiences between the participants [2]. The English Language is used in much more of the communications except in non-verbal communication. Among various systems and methods of communication, human communication system especially human language is unique. Although every communication system can claim in some way to be unique, human language is spectacularly unique in its complexity and expressive power [3].

3.2 Communication and profession

Communication has a very important place in the future for any field of profession. It is almost impossible to handle any profession in the world in the absence of communication [2]. Communication helps professionals in their five major managerial tasks namely planning, organizing, executing, staffing and controlling.

The sources of English language which enables to our upcoming engineering students and research scholars involved in the study of engineering to gain knowledge produced and explored by the genius of the engineering field, it occupies a very important position [2]. Without using English in the present context of the country, the teaching and learning of any scientific and technical subject like engineering are not possible [4].

4. COMMUNICATION SKILL FOR EDUCATION SYSTEM

In the traditional education system which affects English language learning and acquisition for communicating with each other. Basically, four skills are major required i.e. Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. Today scenarios, our students are being trained in writing and reading in English but listening and speaking skills are neglected and ignored which are very important for their social life [5].

Communication is also the biggest deal in the education sector. Where there is a teacher to student, student to student, teacher to teacher, teacher to parent, teacher to admin or admin to parent, or vice versa, communication is much more needed to make sure our students are successful in their life. Communication is everything for our social life cause without communication we cannot survive in social life and make a big problem in choose a career opportunity. Many problems create like as lack of time, lack of resources, and lack of knowing how to get the point across or a language barrier in rural areas. We can use new Technology to improving communication in education via presentation, video, and the Internet.

5. COMMUNICATION SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

5.1 Presentations

The process of presentation is delivering a topic to the audience. We have introduced to a demonstration, lecture, or speech meant to inform, inspire, motivate, or to build goodwill or to present a new concept. This is a formal talk to present one or more persons that getting ideas or information. All presentations have a good concept to deliver in public areas. The student's knowledge gained by allocating class projects through presentations. As per Irish survey, 78-82% of sampled practicing engineering graduates have required to give oral presentations as part of their work day by day on regular basis [8].

5.2 Peer Review

It is a good evaluation of work by one or more people of similar competence to the producers of the work (**peers**). Advantages of peer assessment include getting students to think about the exercise more deeply, recognize others' viewpoints and how to give constructive criticism to peers [11].

5.3 Role-Play

Role playing is a learning stratum that allows students to immediately apply content as they are keeps in the role of a decision maker who needs decision making regarding a policy, resource allocation. Role play is the act of play the character and behavior of someone who is different from you. Group members have to communicate with each other via role-playing.

5.4 Video

Most people are visually oriented, it's not secured. A video presentation is a perfect way to spread their great ideas and to create an emotional connection with the audience and also good presentation their feeling through video. They will find out how to develop a business through video presentation or an engaging lecture by video in PowerPoint that is also called as digital Market. Video/audio grading has shown to improve presentation skills by the drama in students, with one prime example given where student presentations were filmed and then graded with dubbing from the teacher and a feedback sheet [9].

5.5 Technology

As per Irish literature survey found that practicing civil engineering graduates suggested that greater content for communication courses in engineering cover basic MS Office applications as well as other technical elements including Web page design, e-mail, and graphic design [8].

6. LACK OF EXPOSURE TO THE ENGLISH COMMUNICATION

The student from rural areas is lacking the exposure to the English communication in the family and society as well as in the colleges. The meritorious gold medalist engineering student fails to achieve success during personal interviews due to lack of communication skills, soft skills, interpersonal skills, and personality development. During academics also lack the confidence in being unable to communicate in English leads to a feeling of inferiority complex, as a result, students keep themselves lonely and isolated [4].

7. LACK OF SKILLFUL TEACHERS

The important factor is the lack of skillful teachers in our education system Most of the teachers have untrained at all the learning levels because they are unaware of the current trends and advanced techniques of English Learning skill. The situation is same with the regional medium as well as the English medium for primary, secondary and senior secondary level schools in the rural or semi-urban area. Even the parents are a desire for the marks as well as skills or knowledge. This nervousness remains in their mind to higher education because of providing poor guidance. Again this exam has orienting students to give prior importance to their technical subjects than to the communication competence [5].

8. FACTORS AFFECTING FRESH CIVIL ENGINEERING GRADUATES EMPLOYMENT

There is a lot of factors mentioned by construction industry professionals, academic professors, leading academic experts and HR managers in construction industries. The most common things from all of them are students are lacking in communication skills,

practical knowledge, technical knowledge, software skills (like auto cad designing skills, Microsoft Office, Primavera, Lean techniques and BIM). Communication is a very most important individual skill for students, fresh civil engineering graduates, and employees who want to lead a successful carrier. Many problems arise out of poor communication from the students and graduates are not taught how to communicate properly in his schools, colleges, and workplaces. More than Forty percentages of engineering graduates today are struggling even for basic communication [6]. A complicated project (single family house), communication between the house owner (the client), the designer (the architect), the contractor (and its workforce), the material suppliers and the planning and building control officers will play an important role [7].

9. CONCLUSIONS

Communication skill is a very big deal for engineering student as well as another educational sector. Many problems create in front all of us when we choose engineering field from rural areas. This is necessary to have some skills as listening, speaking, reading and writing for their improvement in academic career and personality.

The rural area engineering students should effectively make use of the faculty, upgrade technology provided to them in combination with the self-efforts, to emerge as a graduate engineer using English communication to become successful in their life and career.

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