



DEVELOPING LISTENING SKILLS THROUGH PODCAST IN PRIMARY EDUCATION

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Abstract: *Understanding any materials is dependent on pupil's listening abilities. Students who grasp their listening abilities will be able to communicate effectively. Listening is a vital ability. Students with high listening abilities can have effective communication skills. Practice listening skills, listen to music and watch English films. Listening to varied podcasts will improve the student's listening abilities.*

Keywords: *Listening skills, Communication, Language skill, Enhancement.*

Introduction: Listening is a crucial skills for enhancing communication abilitie. Learners cannot communicate effectively until they have thoroughly listened to and grasped the topic. Understanding the context requires effective listening and strong thinking. Language acquisition is critical in both academic and social settings. Many research have shown that litening is essential for building communication skills. Language acquisition is essential for personality, and it is widely acknowledged that the English language introduces learners to the world. According to several research, learners spend 45-55% of their time developing English LSRW abilities, specifically listening skills. Though listening plays a critical part in strengthening communication abilities, teachers overlook it.

Listening is also vital possibly more so than speaking. It is difficult to communicate effectively with other if you are unable to listen well. Listening is a language skill that may be developed with practice. Listening is important because it hepls pupils understand to language and how to use it, and be prepared to utilize both the vocabulary and a range of strategies to assist them learn the words they want to use.

Listening is a language modality. It is one of the four language abilities, which include listening, speaking, reading, ang writing. It requires active participation from a person. Listening involves the sender the message and the recipient. Listening consist of some major components:

- Distinguishing sounds.
- Words to recognize and understand their meaning
- Determining the grammatical groups of words
- Determining the set of phrases and sentences that serve to create meaning.
- Connecting linguistic signs with non-linguistic things.
- Remembering paralinguistic signs and Scientific ideas to predict and confirm the meaning, remembering, important words and ideas.



Listening is particularly crucial since it accounts for a considerable portion of the time we spend communicating in a language. Listening has become increasingly important in language training as technology has advanced. It contains material that can be quite useful for second language acquisition in general and speaking skills in particular. Include the following.

Direct your focus to the other speaker.

Face them, make eye contact and ensure that you are on the same level.

If they are standing you should stand,

If they are seated, you should also sit.

Listening helps you learn more. When discussing listening abilities, it is vital to understand the distinction between listening and hearing. Many pupils believe that hearing and hearing are the same. Hearing is the process of focusing without hearing, whereas listening is the act of listening. As a result, students should continue to listen while attempting to understand what they hear. When teaching students listening skills, teachers should explain the distinction between hearing and listening to prevent pupils from ignoring the listening process. NPE and NCF in the secondary education commission, as well as NPE the national and international importance of English, announced that it is vital to teach and encourage students to develop skills.

Anderson and Lynch define listening as the inability of listeners to understand. Listening is a practice that is essential for learning about the listeners and comprehending the context inner meaning. Characterizes as ability. According to O'Malley Chamot, and Kooper, listening involves understanding context through clues and prior knowledge.

Types of the listening: Random hearing is when we listen without purpose. Listeners do not take this style of listening seriously.

Casual listening-includes things like listening to music and stories. Directed listening occurs when listeners are serious about receiving information language: in this case, the listener is listening to receive and appreciate what lecturer says. Appreciate listening is commonly used when listening to music with the purpose of just enjoying the sounds heard.

Gist listening is a form of listening in which the listener focuses on the most significant points. Current level of your listening and communication abilities. It appears that learners are still struggling to acquire basic listening and communication skills. English, like other languages, is never taught as a skill; instead, it is taught as a subject in school and universities, with the primary goal of finishing the curriculum rather than building skills. In India, English is taught as a secondary language.

English language education in India aims to provide pupils with the capacity to read, write and listening to English at a fair level of knowledge, as well as speak in English with clarity, precision, and appropriateness. Thus, teaching English to pupils demonstrates the importance of listening skills in improving communication skills.

According to studies, the majority of teachers lack the knowledge to teach listening skills and the essential equipment is not available in schools or institutions. Because



writing and reading abilities are more important in tests, students pay more attention to listening and speaking skills, which are not prioritized in the exam.

LITERATURE REVIEW:

According to the data gathered, some researchers have expressed an interest in learning more about how to improve listening skills. This is the review, which is made up of twenty-five experts from the Indian and researchers from other nations. Many investigations have proven that listening is an important ability for enhancing communication skills. Many researchers have found that listening helps students enhance their cognitive maturity. This evaluation was expanded by focusing on the aspects.

- Difficulties in developing listening and communication skills in English.
- Developing listening and speaking abilities in English.
- Understanding the vocabulary.
- Use of ICT to improve listening and communication skills.
- Problems with pupils interpreting the accent.

It is found that the majority of students are not effectively taught how to practice their listening abilities. The students are taught how to read, write and speak, but not how to listen. Despite the fact that numerous training programmes are offered to teach listening skills, students are unable to overcome the difficulties they encounter.

The following are some of the impediments to effective listening.

- Speaking incessantly without listening to others.
- A variety of barriers and interruptions.
- Inattentive listening.
- Lack of comprehension ability.
- Distraction in the middle of the conversation.

Active listening is a key mentoring ability. One of the most common mistakes that mentoring makes is mistaking “hearing” and “listening”.

Hearing is simply noting that someone is speaking, listening on the other hand, is making meaning of what is heard, which requires individual to pay continual attention, interpret, and recall what heard. Hearing is passive: listening is active. Active listening needs to identify the emotions linked with them. They are four key prerequisites for active listening: Intensity, Empathy, Acceptance, Willingness to accept responsibility for completion.

An active listener focuses on what the speaker says. The human brain can handle a speaking rate six times that of the average speaker. Thus, the listener must concentrate on the speaker. Eliminating distractions will improve listening skills. Active listening is about developing rapport, comprehension and trust.

Due to space constraints, current English as a second and foreign language teaching encourages treating each communicative macro skills independently but the interaction between these skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) is not addressed. Human beings learn listening skills first, followed by the other three language skills. The importance of the listening skills in effective communication has been



acknowledged for a long time. Being a good administrator and professional requires excellent listening skills. Understanding depends on active listening time, Empathy and focus on the communicators messages are required for comprehension. People want to be heard respected, and understood. The major purpose of listening skills is to help in taking notes.

In a CLIL situation, listening is crucial for providing intelligible input which aids in implicit language acquisition. To supplement teacher speaking, consider using videos, podcasts, films, and documentaries, especially for non-native speakers of the target language.

Authentic listening materials include accurate and up-to-date information on the theme studied, as well as samples of diverse speaking styles. This allows students to practice understanding regional variations of the target language. Authentic content area listening materials offer examples of linguistic features and academic register models for students to use.

MAIN PART:

Podcasts provide real-world discussions, exposing listeners to a variety of dialects, intonations, and communication styles. This is especially useful for language learners who wish to practice comprehending natural speech outside of the classroom or textbook examples.

Podcasts span a wide range of topics including news , entertainment education, and storytelling, giving students the opportunity to practice listening in a variety of settings.

Everyday Practice: Podcasts are freely accessible, allowing you to incorporate listening practice into your everyday routine Regular exposure enhances information retention and spoken language comprehension over time.

Repeat Listening: Because podcasts can be repeated, listeners can revisit difficult areas to hear words or phrases they missed the first time, so improving their comprehension skills. Some podcasts have transcripts that can be used to confirm understanding and explain any missing words or phrases.

Provides interesting talks on a variety of topics, ideal for advanced listening. Focuses on economics, frequently going into deep debates that necessitate careful listening shares personal stories that helps listeners understand different accents and emotional tones. Developing listening abilities through podcasts is an effective and enjoyable strategy that may be used in a variety of learning scenarios, ranging from language acquisition to general comprehension and focus improvement. Podcasts offer an immersive experience that helps listeners improve their ability to interpret spoken language, follow complex ideas and recognize different accents or speaking styles. Here's an overview of how podcasts might improve listening skills.

1.Exposure to Native speech patterns: Podcasts frequently feature native speakers speaking in realistic language, giving language learners exposure to real conversational speech ,idioms, slang, and natural pauses. This is particularly useful for developing a more intuitive knowledge of language beyond textbook terminology.



Listening to natural speech also increases acquaintance with different accents and dialects which is necessary for full listening fluency.

2. Consistency and Repetition

Regular Practice: Podcasts are easily accessible and can become a daily habit, enhancing comprehension over time.

Replay Option: Listeners can revisit sections to catch details they might have missed, reinforcing their understanding.

3. Improved Focus and Active Listening

Active Engagement: Listening with specific goals, such as understanding key ideas or vocabulary, fosters concentration and attention to detail.

Critical Thinking: Podcasts often challenge listeners to think deeply, improving skills like inference and understanding nuances.

4. Advantages for Language Learners

Vocabulary Growth: Exposure to new words in context aids vocabulary acquisition.

Accent Familiarity: They allow learners to hear a variety of accents and dialects, crucial for real-world communication.

5. Self-Paced Learning

Adjustable Speed: Many platforms let listeners slow down or speed up playback, making it easier to adapt to their pace.

Personalized Content: Choosing topics of interest keeps learning engaging and motivating.

6. Enhanced Memory and Multitasking

Auditory Engagement: Listening improves memory retention compared to reading alone.

Skill Development: Podcasts also enhance note-taking, summarization, and comprehension abilities.

7. Practical Tips for Using Podcasts

Select Appropriate Difficulty: Start with simpler content and progress to more complex topics.

Take Notes: Jotting down key points aids retention.

Summarize: Briefly recapping what you've heard ensures comprehension.

Use Transcripts: These can clarify misunderstood sections and reinforce learning.

8. Popular Podcast Recommendations For Language Learners:

The English We Speak (BBC): Focuses on everyday expressions

Coffee Break Languages: Great for learning French, Spanish, German, and more.

ESL Pod: Tailored for English learners.

For General Listening Skills:

TED Talks Daily: Covers diverse and thought-provoking topics.

Freakonomics Radio: Features in-depth discussions on economics and society.

StoryCorps: Shares personal narratives with rich emotional and tonal variety.



CONCLUSION:

As previously noted, listening is an important element of communication abilities. Listening improves communication skills and quality. Active listening enables learners to make more informed decisions. To improve communication abilities, learners should prioritize listening skills and practice them appropriately. Effective listening skills training requires sufficient teacher preparation.

Learners must understand the speaker's language and accent to grasp information effectively. Focusing on listening skills can lead to improved communication abilities. Teachers should provide multiple opportunities for students to practice and engage in active listening.