

## The sun of expectation is smiling behind the dark clouds

I have been teaching English for about 20 years. But before having EIA training I used to speak in Bangla in my English language classes. In that way the target language was being ignored. Instead of illustrating the situations and giving ample examples, I used to encourage students to memorize and even cram grammatical rules and definitions. For this reason the learners were unable to speak in English.

After having EIA training, I tried my best to speak in English almost all the time in my English class. It creates an English speaking atmosphere in the class. This practice also removes students' panic, inertia and shyness in speaking English. Now, the students also try to speak in English inside the classroom, out of the classroom and even at their residences. I think the students enjoy it very much. After joining EIA trainings I started to practice EIA suggested techniques in my classroom. I often use iPod in my English language classes. I observe that most of the students are interested to participate in various activities of the class. I think I am successful to make my class 'student-centered'. I am proud of my success. In this way the students get ample opportunities to express and share their ideas and thoughts without any hesitation. They are extremely motivated and encouraged. They are very much interested to act Role Play, Favourite Word Games, Dialogue Practice, Choral Dialogue, Guessing Games, Predictive Listening, Listening and Responding, Songs for Language Practice and what not. I became astonished to see that my students spontaneously asked me to arrange Favourite Word Games. They enjoy the game very much. To develop speaking skills Favourite Words Game is very effective. By practicing Choral Dialogues I observed that the weaker students also become more active and cheerful.

I strongly believe speaking skill is the heart of communicative approach. The participatory activities and co-operative learning process cannot be ensured without it. To develop speaking skill there is no alternative of oral practice. Oral practice is indeed the quickest way to learn a language properly. Language is primarily speech. So language must be learnt orally first. Even a person who does not know the alphabets, can easily and spontaneously speak a foreign language if he lives with the native speakers for few years. Speaking skill helps a lot to correct pronunciation. To travel abroad and even to get a good job, speaking skill is a must.

Though now English is considered as our second language, we are unable to establish its due status till now. Especially at secondary level most of our beloved students and even most of the teachers are unable to speak in English fluently. I strongly believe that if we practice the techniques of EIA and use EIA materials in our class room, we will overcome our problems. I am optimistic, if we try heart and soul, we will reach our goal. I have not given up hope. I believe that the sun of expectation is smiling behind the dark clouds.

At last I would like to say that we, the trainees of EIA are very lucky to have such a unique opportunity for our professional development. To overcome our all sorts of lacking, I think iPod is an excellent device. It is a blessing for the teachers. It is very much important to make real life atmosphere in our class room. To create real life situation in our class room it has no alternative. So, we are grateful to the EIA authority.

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