

# The Role of English Language and Literature in Cultivating Students' Language Ability under the Condition of Market Economy

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**Abstract:** From the current situation of English language and literature teaching, the teaching methods and teaching models are contrary to the training objectives required by English majors. Under the condition of market economy, China is in urgent need of a group of high-quality communicative English talents, and strengthening the cultivation of students' language ability has become an important issue faced by many colleges and teachers. English language and literature, as one of the courses for in-depth study of college English, reveals the western culture and historical background behind English. It plays an important role in cultivating students' language ability. Based on this, this paper starts from the relationship between English students' language ability and English language and literature under the condition of market economy, and discusses the role of English language and literature in cultivating students' language ability.

## 1. Introduction

The emergence of any language has its own history of development, and the best way to understand the history of language development is to read language and literature. Therefore, in order to cultivate students' English language ability, we must recognize the role of English language and literature [1]. In the process of modern English teaching, it is necessary to cultivate students' abilities in all aspects, and the cultivation of language ability is one of them. In the process of cultivating students' language ability, in order to improve students' language ability under the market economy, teachers should fully realize the important role of English language and literature, so as to make better use of its advantages and cultivate students' language ability [2].

Students can improve their language application ability by learning English language and literature, which has been recognized by many teachers. However, few people have studied its specific impact and why it has such an impact. If we want to improve our language application ability through the study of English language and literature in a more targeted way, we must make relevant research on it.

## 2. The composition of students' language ability

### 2.1. Basic knowledge of language

Basic knowledge of language is one of the important contents and basic components of students' language ability. The basic knowledge of language mainly includes two aspects: one is morphology, the other is syntax. Lexical mainly refers to the methods that should be mastered when vocabulary is used. Only when the basic usage of vocabulary is clear can we express freely in communication and accurately express the meaning of words [3-4]. The application of syntax is mainly analyzed from the way of sentence formation. Whether the sentence is simple or complex, it is necessary to master the correct syntax in order to express it accurately in application. It can be seen from this that it is necessary to master certain basic knowledge of language in English language learning.

### 2.2. Language communication skills

On the basis of mastering the basic knowledge of language, students learn language communication skills at a deeper level. In fact, language communication is a complicated process.

Generally speaking, the same sentence, when spoken by different people, will have different expression effects. Language expression must be combined with the corresponding scenes and contexts, so as to properly express what one thinks and convey correct ideology. It can be seen that students need to master the language communication skills in different scenes and environments, and constantly sum up through practice to promote the improvement of language ability.

### **2.3. Linguistic rhetoric**

In language expression, rhetoric plays a very important role, and different rhetoric ways can convey different language effects to people and help others understand better. Appropriate language rhetoric is more vivid in expression effect, and promotes the appeal and persuasiveness of language, so as to achieve the effect of language communication. Therefore, in English language learning, we should pay attention to the cultivation of students' rhetoric ability [5-6]. For example, in Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, "For the sweetest music to lovers is the sound of each other's tongue at night.", metaphorical rhetoric is used in this sentence, with "the sweetest music" as the metaphor and "the sound of each other's tongue at night" as the noumenon, which fully shows their deep affection. Therefore, in the process of actual language communication, in order to achieve this goal, the speaker needs to make rational use of rhetorical devices, so as to ensure that his intention can be understood by the other party, and at the same time, he can infect the other party on the basis of understanding, and finally ensure the smooth completion of English language communication and achieve the ideal effect of language communication.

## **3. The relationship between students' language ability and English language and literature**

The Relationship between Students' Language Ability and English Language and Literature Students' language ability mainly includes listening, oral expression, reading, writing and translation, among which language input skills include listening and reading skills, while language output skills include oral expression, translation and writing skills. Traditional English teaching often only pays attention to the cultivation of students' language output and input skills, but neglects the cultivation of students' literary accomplishment and cultural awareness. English language and literature is a combination of English culture and literature knowledge, which enables students to master various language skills on the basis of understanding the history and culture of English-speaking countries in different periods. By letting students learn the cultural characteristics of Britain and America in different periods, they can improve their practical application ability of English on the basis of mastering various language skills [7].

## **4. The promotion of English language and literature to the cultivation of language ability in market economy**

### **4.1. Help students consolidate their basic knowledge**

With the help of the study of literary works, we can fully grasp the knowledge of English morphology and grammar. It also includes the use of artistic rhetoric and the expression in a specific pragmatic environment. These are the basic aspects of English language application. For learners who use English as a second language, reading English original works with classic sentence patterns, elegant wording, idiomatic words and moving plot can undoubtedly cultivate their sense of language and improve their ability to write English articles. The best way to learn language is to learn literature. Students can use specific examples in English language and literature to help them improve their language ability. First, provide students with a reference example, such as syntax and morphology; Second, the display of language skills, that is to say, guide students to choose the right sentences to express their emotions and meanings in the correct context; Third, the use of rhetorical devices can also help students improve their language level.

At the same time, the examples can also show students language skills and the use of rhetorical

devices, and improve students' language ability to the greatest extent [8]. For example, in the famous novel *Les Miserables*, there was a saying like this: "Wisdom holds three keys, an open figure, an open letter, an open note. Knowledge, thinking, fantasy, one of them." This sentence contains not only the application of morphology and syntax, but also the application of rhetoric. Students can understand the language through similar examples and gradually improve their language ability.

#### **4.2. Expand students' knowledge**

In the whole national culture, language is an inseparable part and a microcosm of culture. Its content and expression contain many cultural customs. Therefore, through the study of language, students can have a better understanding of national culture and further expand their knowledge. Although many classic sentence examples will be cited, students can't use these examples alive, and the effect of breaking away from the actual example context is always poor. Students' mastery of grammar can't be understood simply from examinations, and practical application is the real purpose of learning English. Therefore, English teachers should pay attention to improving students' communicative competence when teaching English courses.

For example, in the literary classic "*The Old Man and the Sea*", there is a famous saying: "Man can be destroyed but not defeated". Such sentences are linked with Hemingway's glory, and students will learn different life philosophies in each sentence, which is not an expansion of knowledge. Students' knowledge horizon is opened in all directions, and they travel in different worlds. This is not only conducive to the realization of teachers' English teaching objectives, but also caters to students' learning expectations, increases their reading experience, and ultimately improves students' comprehensive English literacy.

#### **4.3. Cultivation of listening ability**

In order to restore the scenes in literary works and present them to everyone better, English teachers usually carry out multimedia teaching and play some classic works to students. By watching these film and television works, students can not only see the current situation and cultural background at that time, but also have emotional resonance. When students watch the movie history, they will also listen carefully to the dialogues between the characters and imitate their speaking speed and intonation. By observing the film pictures, students will have a profound understanding of the meaning of each word and sentence in the works, and on the basis of being familiar with authentic English, they will promote their own language identity and language literacy.

#### **4.4. Writing ability**

Literary works are the result of language refinement by language masters and a summary of life. Secondly, most of them reflect simple life and have strong appeal. Secondly, when teachers explain the rhetorical devices and meanings of some beautiful sentences, they will be influenced by this kind of writing style and use it as their own writing material. Secondly, the teacher will guide the students to refine the main contents of the works from the characters' personality characteristics and the theme of the story. The second students will internalize the writer's language into their own language and carry out secondary creation, which will further enrich their creative thinking and improve their writing level. Learning English works can help them establish cultural awareness, better distinguish Chinese culture, English culture and native culture, and build up intercultural communication ability.

#### **4.5. Cultivation of oral expression ability**

Under the condition of market economy, the demand for high-quality communicative English talents is getting higher and higher in China. Therefore, in English language and literature class, in order to fully stimulate students' desire to learn and explore, teachers can improve their personal cultivation and cultural accomplishment on the basis of independent communication, exploration and appreciation, and usually let students independently divide into several groups to perform, and

interpret the classic fragments of their works through dramas and sitcoms. In the process of role-playing, students will carefully interpret and taste the language in the works, and then have a deep understanding of the inner feelings of the hero in the text. This teaching method not only trains students' oral English expression ability, but also further promotes their language thinking ability.

#### **4.6. Enrich students' expression**

In the process of English language learning, students can increase their vocabulary by reading a large number of English literary works. As a result, students can not only use words freely and accurately in the process of language communication, but also constantly change their language expression styles. This is mainly because different genres of literary works will have great differences in their language styles, which will have a certain impact on students' language expression. In this process, teachers should provide some help to students, so that they can learn English language and literature more effectively, and their communicative competence in English language can be improved effectively. For example, in the actual teaching process, teachers can collect and summarize some words with similar meanings. Teachers should compare these words from the application scenarios, so as to enrich students' vocabulary, make their language expression more accurate, and finally improve students' language ability.

### **5. Present situation and suggestions of English language and literature teaching**

#### **5.1. Teaching of English language and literature**

In the process of globalization, the use of English language is gradually expanding, which builds a bridge for cross-cultural communication. To strengthen cooperation with other countries in the world, it is necessary for China to communicate in English, so it is necessary to carry out English teaching effectively. According to the current situation of colleges and universities, in the past English teaching process, teachers only attached great importance to the cultivation of students' language input and output skills, ignoring the cultivation of their cultural awareness and literary accomplishment, which hindered the all-round development of students to a great extent. Moreover, the teaching of English language and literature has not played its due role, and the profound literary knowledge and appreciation of western culture have become the "vassal" of language structure. Students' aesthetic sensitivity is dispelled, and teachers cannot achieve the goal of English language teaching.

#### **5.2. Suggestion**

First of all, teachers should pay more attention to English language and literature teaching. When cultivating students' language ability, it is necessary for teachers to improve students' language output skills and input skills from a comprehensive perspective, so as to enhance students' awareness of foreign culture and history and provide sufficient motivation for them to learn English language and literature better. English language ability includes oral expression ability, translation ability, writing ability, reading ability and listening ability, among which oral expression ability, writing ability and translation ability are all output ability. Listening ability and reading ability are input ability. There is a close relationship between English language and literature and language ability. Only by actively carrying out English language and literature teaching activities can students acquire basic knowledge of English and understand foreign customs and habits, further enhance students' emotional experience, stimulate students' desire for language expression and have a positive impact on improving students' language ability.

Secondly, choose the content of English language and literature reasonably. In the actual teaching process, in order to make English language and literature teaching achieve better results, the choice of its content is very important, which is also an important factor affecting the cultivation of students' language ability. Therefore, teachers must choose the content of English language and literature reasonably, and its content should meet the students' actual situation and teaching needs, and should not be separated from the teaching practice, so as to ensure the cultivation of students'

language ability by English language and literature.

Finally, cultivate and enhance students' communicative competence. Through teaching activities, students can accumulate more language and literature materials, which is helpful for students to communicate in English in real life. By doing so, we can not only expand their knowledge, but also cultivate their sense of language, learn more about expression and skills, so as to apply them reasonably in the actual communication process, make language communication achieve the ideal effect, improve students' language ability and lay a good foundation for their development.

## 6. Conclusion

In the process of English language learning, it is necessary to cultivate students' language ability. In the actual teaching process, teachers should pay more attention to this aspect. With the progress of society and the continuous improvement of economic level, under the condition of market economy, China is in urgent need of a group of high-quality communicative English talents, and the cultural development is becoming more and more diversified. In international communication and cooperation, the effect of English translation is very obvious. Therefore, from the perspective of linguistic and cultural diversity, we should pay more attention to English translation, increase investment, make English translation more scientific and normative, and pay attention to connotation construction. The author analyzes the specific principles of language and literature for improving language application, and believes that it can help front-line teachers trace their roots in the current teaching situation, and improve their language application teaching level more efficiently with the essence of English language and literature teaching.

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