Exploring Interactive Teaching Mode and Its Application to English Classroom Teaching in Colleges and Universities

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Abstract: Interactive teaching mode is a new type of teaching mode with students as the core and the purpose of discussing and learning with each other. It has the characteristics of initiative, interaction, innovation and openness, playing an important guiding role in cultivating students’ comprehensive quality of English ability. Therefore, in English classroom teaching in colleges and universities, teachers are required to take the promotion of communication and interaction among students as the main purpose, change their original teaching thinking and innovate their teaching methods, so as to improve the efficiency and quality of English classroom teaching.

1. Introduction

With the rapid development of the contemporary era, the emergence of new things and the elimination of old things every day, parents and colleges pay more and more attention to education. Moreover, the requirements for teaching quality are also higher and higher, which makes teachers’ teaching in efficient English classroom no longer rely solely on traditional teaching methods since the traditional teaching thinking and methods have been unable to keep up with the pace of the development of the times. Without innovation, they will be eliminated and students will eventually lose interest in English learning. On the contrary, the interactive teaching mode overthrows the traditional teaching mode to a certain extent, which can arouse students’ interest in English learning and love for English learning. In the process of interaction, it can not only create a good and harmonious classroom atmosphere, but also promote the improvement and promotion of students’ individual abilities and enhance their principal position in English classroom learning. It is an extremely important and effective teaching mode, which deserves more research and use by teachers in English classroom teaching in colleges and universities.

2. What is “Interactive Teaching Mode”

In the so-called interactive teaching mode, to put it simply, “interaction” means that there are more exchanges and interaction between students and students as well as between teachers and students in English classroom teaching, through which they are able to share their inner feelings, thus having a certain positive impact on each other. Interactive teaching mode is also a kind of teaching mode to enhance students’ autonomous learning ability. This kind of teaching mode can effectively enhance students’ self-control and learning ability. It is effective to cultivate students’ self-learning and all-round development. In the process of mutual communication, it is possible to strengthen the communication among students, realize the teaching response of mutual help and sharing resources. At the same time, it is also feasible to strengthen students’ expressive ability, enhance their emotional quotient, and promote them to correctly express their true inner thoughts rather than “have a hard word to say“. This will be helpful to students’ future learning and development, or even has a vital impact on their work.
3. Necessity of the Application of Interactive Teaching Mode to English Classroom in Colleges and Universities

3.1 Interactive Teaching Mode is Conducive to the Construction of an Equal and Democratic Atmosphere to English Classroom in College and Universities

Constructing an equal and democratic classroom atmosphere is quite necessary to the teaching quality of an efficient English classroom. Nobody likes to study in an atmosphere of depression and tension, since it will make students feel that this class is suffering. While interactive teaching mode plays a positive and positive guiding role in creating a relaxed and happy classroom atmosphere and building an equal and harmonious relationship between teachers and students. There are two main manifestations of this role:

Firstly, it is manifested in the teacher-student relationship. In the teacher-student relationship in people's cognition, it is generally believed that teacher is the disseminator of knowledge while student is the receiver of knowledge who is the passive receiver in this relationship. This makes students feel that they have no self and are unable to find their main position in English learning. The phenomenon easily makes students conflict with teachers and fail to construct a harmonious and friendly relationship with teachers. In the interactive teaching mode, the relationship between teachers and students tends to be more like friends. Teachers are not only the disseminators of knowledge, but also the intimate friends and quiet listeners who share and communicate with students, which makes teachers and students more equal. Teachers’ image considered by students is more approachable. When confused, students are more willing to seek the help of their teachers on their own initiative. When happy, they tend to share with their teachers on their own initiative.

Secondly, it is reflected in the relationship between students and students. Interactive teaching in high-efficiency English classes encourages students to stop enclosing themselves in a circle and enhance communication, interaction and discussion. This will help increase students’ English expressive ability, improve their relationship, enhance their emotional quotient when communicating with others and gradually improve their learning ability and oral English level in practice. In such a teaching mode, communication among students is more frequent, so that they gradually enhance their English learning ability in life, enhance their relationship and communication interaction ability as well as make the classroom atmosphere more harmonious and happy.

3.2 Interactive Teaching Mode Fully Respects Students’ Autonomy in Learning and Embodies Their Value

Why is interactive teaching mode more advantageous in College English classroom teaching? It is because today’s English education for students not only requires to cultivate students’ reading and understanding of knowledge in textbooks, but also to enable students to improve their English ability and English learning as well as stimulate their interest through mutual verbal expression and communication. Meanwhile, building a harmonious classroom atmosphere is propitious to making the classroom atmosphere less tense and less depressive. Under the interactive teaching mode, teachers are capable of creating a good learning environment for students. In this harmonious classroom environment, a interpersonal circle of mutual respect, mutual tolerance and common progress will be formed between teachers and students as well as between students and students. It can be imagined that learning in such a relaxed and pleasant environment is a kind of enjoyment for students both physically and psychologically. At the same time, when students communicate with teachers, teachers often convey positive energy to students, which is conducive to the improvement of students’ motivation for English learning and better fulfillment of teaching objectives.

3.3 Interactive Teaching Mode is Conducive to Breaking away from Traditional Teaching Mode and Renewing Teaching Thinking

One of the important subjective factors hindering the interactive teaching mode in college English classroom is teachers and students’ psychology. Simply speaking, the traditional teaching
mode is too deeply rooted in the hearts of them to carry out smoothly the development of interactive teaching mode. If we can’t abandon the inertia of traditional teaching thinking and mode, we can’t break through ourselves and fail to keep pace with the times, innovate, and improve the efficiency and quality of English classroom teaching. Therefore, both teachers and students should learn to change their thinking, treat and accept interactive teaching mode with a brand-new perspective and mentality. The importance and application of interactive teaching mode is conducive to helping students and teachers farewell to traditional teaching methods and renewing teaching thinking. For students, it can stimulate students’ interest in learning, cultivate students’ autonomous learning ability, and let students feel their own sense of value and existence. For teachers, it helps teachers improve the relationship with students, create a good classroom atmosphere, optimize teaching quality and improve teaching efficiency. With interactive teaching mode, teachers and students are able to grow together and make progress in learning and life.

4. How to Apply Interactive Teaching Mode in College English Classroom

4.1 Develop Cooperation among Students and Arouse Students’ Enthusiasm for English Learning

In order to maximize the advantages of interactive teaching mode in college English classroom, one of the concrete ways is to strengthen cooperation and learning, communication and discussion among students, so as to carry out a kind of cooperative learning. The specific method can be that students are to be divided into groups for learning or cooperative learning can be carried out in the whole classes. The purpose of this teaching method is to provide students with an equal opportunity and a harmonious learning atmosphere, so that each student will have an opportunity and be interested in participating in the activities and discussions of college English classroom under the guidance of interactive teaching mode. It is also propitious to cultivating students’ spontaneity and enthusiasm for English learning, making knowledge more acceptable and promoting the completion and optimization of teachers’ English teaching tasks and the improvement and efficiency of teaching quality. At the same time, cooperative learning can also effectively relieve students’ introversion and anxiety.

Before teaching, assign tasks are assigned to each group. Students are guided to work within the group, freely express their opinions and ideas, unite themselves with others, and with the help of teachers, discuss and report between each group. Finally, the report of each group is combined to form a class summary, which has formed the procedural teaching mode, and can also make a stub of the learning content of this class, so as to facilitate future sharing and progress. Teachers are suggested to guide students to study English in groups which is conducive to the combination of classroom textbook teaching and extracurricular practice activities, formulate reasonable learning plans, and regularly understand students’ recent learning and psychological state. Organizing class students to work in groups is an important manifestation of interactive teaching mode. This method gives everyone the opportunity to express their ideas, promotes each student to open their mouths actively, cultivates students’ ability to communicate, improve their spoken English and shape their thinking ability, and also helps teachers to improve their teaching quality.

4.2 Teachers should Strengthen the Interaction between Students and Textbooks in College English Classroom

Teachers are expected to firstly make use of some multimedia to play some movies, clips or pictures to diversify and interestingly introduce the contents of the classroom and then assign the learning tasks to students, which will make them more acceptable and likeable. In the process of completing the learning task, teachers are supposed to provides guidance and help. When students encounter problems and do not understand, they should give appropriate guidance and education so that students can go deeper into the depth of the text and understand its meaning and the main idea by reading the text. Through the interaction between students and texts, students are guided to bring themselves into the role of the text and understand it in others position.
For example, in learning the text friendship, after students read the text and understand the main content, teachers are advised to assign tasks to let students remember the following important phrases: add up, calm down, have got to, be concerned, go through. Only when students understand the meaning of phrases can they bring these phrases into the text, truly understand the meaning of the text and know what the article is talking about. In this way, students are capable of reading and understanding this text more easily, and achieving better teaching effect.

4.3 Organize Various Extracurricular Teaching Activities to Cultivate Students' Comprehensive English Skills

Interactive teaching mode is not only reflected in classroom teaching, but also manifested in various extracurricular teaching activities. Developing these activities can break through the limitations of classroom teaching to a certain extent, enable students to experience it personally, make it easier for students to understand the text, and cultivate students’ comprehensive English literacy. For example, it is suggested to often show some famous English movies for students and organize them to perform English short plays from time to time. The content of the performances can be imitations of movies or passages, or some interesting and meaningful things happened in their daily life, encouraging students to speak more, watch more and do more adaptions. It greatly helps to improve students’ ability of listening, speaking, reading and writing as well as communication and innovation.

5. Conclusion

Reasonable application of interactive teaching mode to college English classroom, on the one hand, can create a relaxed learning environment for students, in which students are able to better carry out English learning and cultivate interest in English learning. On the other hand, it provides students with more opportunities for self-exercise, stimulates students’ desire to actively participate in learning, and improves students' interest in English learning, improving their motivation and spontaneity of language learning. Interactive teaching mode also has an important influence on the optimization of English classroom teaching efficiency and the improvement of teaching quality in colleges and universities. It makes students fully realize the fun of English and the importance of learning English, and improves their comprehensive English level and quality.

References


