

A Practical Research on Mining Ideological and Political Elements in Senior High School English Curriculum

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Abstract

Ideological and Political Theories Teaching in All Courses is a new education and teaching concept. It takes high moral values establishment and people cultivation as the fundamental task of education, and creatively integrates “Chinese culture”, “Chinese road” and other elements into the course teaching. The general senior high school English course, as a combination of instrumental and humanistic course, is an important place to implement curriculum ideological and political education. This article focuses on analyzing the feasibility of mining ideological and political elements in high school English textbooks, and on this basis, proposes a practical approach to apply ideological and political theories in high school English courses. This can make English courses an concrete and vivid effective carrier for the core values of socialism and the four self-confidence to guide students form a correct world outlook, outlook on life and values.

Keywords

High School English; Ideological and Political Theories Teaching in All Courses; Ideological and political elements.

1. Introduction

General Secretary Xi Jinping emphasized at the National Conference on Ideology and Politics in Colleges and Universities: “To do well the ideological and political work in Colleges and universities, we should make good use of the main channel of classroom teaching. The ideological and political theory course should be strengthened in improvement to enhance the affinity and pertinence of Ideological and political education. Other courses should keep a good channel and plant a good responsibility field, so as to make all kinds of courses go hand in hand with the ideological and political theory course and form a synergistic effect” [1]. As a course for learning and using the English language, the English course in senior high school is a basic cultural course that fully implements the party's educational policy, implements the fundamental task of high moral values establishment and people cultivation, and trains socialist builders and successors. Naturally, it is also an important and suitable place to implement the curriculum ideological and political theories. Therefore, integrating curriculum ideology and politics into the high school English course is an effective way to realize the dual educational functions of knowledge transfer and value guidance.

2. The Connotation of the Ideological and Political Theories Teaching in All Courses

“Ideological and Political Theories Teaching in All Courses” is a new educational and teaching concept in recent years. There is no clear definition of Ideological and Political Theories Teaching in All Courses in the academic circle. In 2014, Shanghai first proposed “Ideological and Political Theories Teaching in All Courses”, which refers to a comprehensive educational

concept in which all kinds of courses and ideological and political theory courses are in the same direction in the form of building a whole staff, whole process and whole curriculum education pattern, forming a synergistic effect, and taking "building morality and cultivating people" as the fundamental task of education. After that, many scholars explained the connotation of the term "Ideological and Political Theories Teaching in All Courses" on the basis of this. Lu puting and others believe that "Ideological and Political Theories Teaching in All Courses" refers to the educational concept of taking "building morality and cultivating people" as the fundamental task of education, deeply exploring the ideological and political theory education resources of various courses, running the ideological and political work through the whole process of curriculum education and teaching, making the curriculum go in the same direction with the ideological and political theory course, forming a synergistic effect, and building a whole staff, whole process and whole curriculum education pattern [2]. Gao Deyi and others believe that the essence of "Ideological and Political Theories Teaching in All Courses" is not to open an additional course or add an activity, but to integrate ideological and political education into all links and aspects of curriculum teaching and reform, so as to build morality and cultivate people. At the same time, build a whole curriculum education pattern around the curriculum goal of combining knowledge transfer and value guidance [3].

From the above research, we can find that although there is no unified definition of "Ideological and Political Theories Teaching in All Courses", they all emphasize that each course undertakes the task of ideological and political education in teaching, excavate the ideological and political elements in professional courses, realize education in teaching, form synergy with ideological and political courses, and implement the fundamental task of building morality and cultivating people. Therefore, combined with the general senior high school English course, this study believes that the high school English curriculum ideological and politics is a curriculum teaching concept. By excavating the ideological and cultural factors, values, ethics, social morality and other factors contained in the English discipline, we can realize the organic unity of the function of imparting knowledge and educating people in the English curriculum, and implement the fundamental task of building morality and cultivating people.

3. The Meaning of Ideological and Political Elements

In September 2018, Xi Jinping emphasized at the National Education Conference: "What kind of people to train is the primary issue of education. China is a socialist country led by the Communist Party of China, which determines that our education must take the training of socialist builders and successors as the fundamental task, and train generation after generation of useful talents who support the leadership of the Communist Party of China and China's socialist system and are determined to fight for socialism with Chinese characteristics for life. This is the fundamental task of education and the direction and goal of educational modernization". "Efforts should be made to strengthen ideals and beliefs, educate and guide students to establish the lofty ideal of communism and the common ideal of socialism with Chinese characteristics, enhance students' confidence in the road, theory, system and culture of socialism with Chinese characteristics, and be determined to shoulder the important task of national rejuvenation"[4]. The above important speech of Xi Jinping made it clear that the "ideological and political elements" of "Ideological and Political Theories Teaching in All Courses" is to cultivate students' socialist core values and enhance students' "four self-confidence". This article is also based on this concept.

4. The Feasibility of Mining Ideological and Political Elements in the General High School English Course

As the latest revised English textbook, the main purpose of general high school English textbook is to fully implement the fundamental task of building morality and cultivating people, and to cultivate socialist builders and successors with Chinese feelings, international vision and cross-cultural communication ability. Many of the texts in the textbook contain rich ideological and political elements, which need us to dig deeply and correctly educate and guide students, so as to cultivate students' socialist core values, enhance their "four self-confidence" and cultivate qualified socialist builders and successors. This paper takes the English textbook for senior high school edited by Liu Daoyi and Zheng wangquan as an example to talk about teachers' practical research on ideological and political teaching in senior high school English courses.

Table 1. General High School English Textbook Compulsory Book 1 to Book 4 Text Theme' Summary

	Book1	Book2	Book3	Book4
Unit 1	Teenage Life	Cultural Heritage	Festivals and Celebrations	Science Fiction
Unit 2	Travelling Around	Wildlife Protection	Morals and Virtues	Iconic Attractions
Unit 3	Sports and Fitness	The Internet	Diverse Cultures	Sea Exploration
Unit 4	Natural Disasters	History and Traditions	Space Exploration	Sharing
Unit 5	Language around the World	Music	The Value of Money	Launching Your Career

It can be seen from the table that there are 20 units from compulsory book 1 to compulsory book 4 in English text books for senior high school. According to the themes of these units, combined with four self-confidence and socialist core values, the author believes that its ideological and political elements can be divided into the following categories: One is the "prosperity and strength" of the core socialist values. The themes are mostly about the youth themselves, helping students to establish their dreams, and realize the ideological and political elements of a strong youth makes a strong country. For example, Teenage Life; Sports and Fitness; Launching Your Career. The second is "civilization" and "harmony" of the core socialist values. The theme is about man and nature, helping students realize the importance of nature, and harmonious coexistence between man and nature and other ideological and political elements. For example, Traveling around; Wildlife Protection; Iconic Attractions; Sea Exploration. The third is the "road self-confidence", "theoretical self-confidence" and "system self-confidence" of the Four-Sphere Confidence. Most of the themes involve ideological and political elements at the national level to help students understand the socialist system and the correctness of taking the road of socialism with Chinese characteristics. For example, Natural Disasters; Space Exploration. The fourth is the "cultural self-confidence" of the Four-Sphere Confidence. The themes are mostly ideological and political elements about the inheritance of Chinese traditional culture and virtues. For example, Language around the World; Cultural Heritage; History and Traditions; Festivals and Celebrations; Morals and Virtues; Diverse Cultures; Sharing. From the above analysis, we can find that the most prominent ideological and political element in senior high school English textbooks is "cultural self-confidence", followed by harmony between man and nature, building a civilized society, prosperity and strength, and finally road self-confidence.

5. Ways of Ideological and Political Practice in High School English Courses

5.1. Help Young People to Reflect on Themselves, Establish Dreams, and Realize That A Strong Youth Makes A Strong Country

The theme of the first unit of high school English compulsory book 1 is youth life. The whole unit focuses on the wonderful high school life of American teenagers. They can choose to join various associations according to their interests and hobbies, but they are also facing academic pressure. Teachers need to guide students to think about how you want to spend your life in the next three years? What do you expect from your life? Do you know what your parents or the country expect of you? Through the discussion of these topics, teachers can not only give students the opportunity to dare to express themselves, but also guide students to reflect on their life in the past three years, plan their future life, help students establish lofty ideals and study hard to realize the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, so as to deeply realize that a strong youth is a strong country.

Compulsory book 2 unit 3 the Internet mainly introduces how the Internet has changed our life. When explaining, teachers should not only guide students to think about the role of the Internet, but also deeply interpret the theme of the text. The Internet is the product of the scientific and technological revolution, and man has promoted the scientific and technological revolution. At the same time, teachers can take Huawei's 5G as an example to tell students about the importance of scientific and technological innovation to a country. Therefore, by stimulating students' patriotic feelings, step by step, guiding students to realize the importance of innovation and initiative of themselves. The most important thing is to correctly guide students to give full play to their own initiative, learn to innovate. So that they can promote the development of China's science and technology and make their own contributions to building a powerful country in science and technology and realizing the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

5.2. Help Students Realize the Importance of Nature and Establish the Concept That Man and Nature Are A Community of Life

The second unit of Compulsory book 2, Wildlife Protection, focuses on the fact that Tibetan antelopes have become an endangered species due to problems such as being shot and killed and habitat reduction. However, after the measures taken by the Chinese government, the number of Tibetan antelopes has gradually increased and is no longer an endangered species. The text mentioned the contradiction between the development of human society and nature. At the same time, nature as a whole, conclude people, mountains, waters, animals and plants, which depend on each other, forming an indivisible community of life. Teachers can use a variety of methods such as discussion, questioning, and debate to guide students to understand that man is a part of nature, and that man and nature live in harmony. From this students can establish the concept that man and nature are a community of life.

5.3. Help Students Recognize the Correctness of the Socialist System and Taking the Road of Socialism with Chinese Characteristics

Compulsory book 1, Unit 4, Natural Disasters, describes the damage caused by the Tangshan Earthquake to humans that their homes collapsed, their loved ones left, and people fell into despair. The reconstruction of Tangshan not only reflects the unity of the Chinese nation, but also reflects that the Chinese government is people-centered, and reflects the importance and correctness of China's socialist system. In order to better help students understand the superiority of China's socialist system, teachers make comparative analysis through examples. For example, in 2020, the world is facing a huge challenge to fight the novel corona virus

pneumonia, but under the leadership of the party and the support of the anti epidemic spirit of national unity and common destiny, we have achieved preliminary victory. As a highly developed country, the epidemic situation in the United States has not been controlled, but has become more and more serious. Through the comparison between China and the United States, we will guide students to discuss the reasons for the success of China and the failure of the United States in the fight against the epidemic, and help students realize that the government needs to bear huge responsibilities in the face of disasters. They should pay attention to the interests of the broad masses of the people and share the same fate with the people, rather than only pay attention to their own interests and the interests of a few capitalists. From this, students can realize the correctness and superiority of the socialist system.

5.4. Help Students Learn Traditional Culture, Inherit the Outstanding Virtues of the Chinese Nation, and Enhance Cultural Self-confidence

A large number of basic contents of socialist core values are integrated into the 20 units of senior high school English compulsory book one to compulsory book four. The themes of these units are related to carrying forward China's excellent traditional culture and enhancing students' cultural self-confidence. The fifth unit of Compulsory book 1, Language around the World, mainly describes the development history and significance of Chinese character writing system. In order to better help students understand the meaning of Chinese characters and pay attention to the writing of Chinese characters in teaching, teachers can first guide students to understand that Chinese characters, as the representative of traditional Chinese culture, are the only ancient characters that have never been cut off and connect the past and the present. Then show students that with the development of science and technology, people are more accustomed to using mobile phones and computers to communicate, pay less and less attention to the writing of Chinese characters, and there are more and more typos. Through comparison, students will not only deeply understand the meaning of Chinese characters, but also pay attention to the writing of Chinese characters, so as to enhance cultural self-confidence and better spread Chinese culture to the outside world. When teaching, teachers can also let students analyze the similarities and differences between Chinese and foreign cultures to cultivate their recognition of Chinese culture, enhance students' cross-cultural understanding and communication skills, and build the consciousness of human destiny community.

6. Conclusion

This paper analyzes the ideological and political elements in the new senior high school English textbooks. The textbooks pay more attention to the inheritance of Chinese excellent traditional culture and cultivate students' cultural awareness. However, the important content of Xi Jinping's new era of socialism with Chinese characteristics, such as the "Community of a Shared Future for Mankind", "One Belt One Road" and other concepts, rarely appear in the textbooks. Therefore, teachers need to consciously improve their ideological and political awareness, effectively integrate the ideological and political elements in the textbooks and Xi Jinping's new era of socialism with Chinese characteristics into the high school English teaching process, subtly improve students' ideological and political awareness, and cultivate their socialist core values, enhance the "four self-confidence" of middle school students. At last, we can achieve the curriculum ideological and political education goals proposed by General Secretary Xi Jinping.

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