The Discussion of Traditional Teaching and Interactive Teaching Methods for College English Learner

Zhixu Wu¹, a

¹School of foreign language, Tianjin Ren’ai College, Tianjin 300000, China

aWzxwb2002@163.com

Abstract

Nowadays, with the boom of global economy and the popularization of higher education, new requirements and Challenges have been put forward for English teachers and its teaching methods, especially for the college students. The traditional teaching models are no longer suitable for the new era. Only adding interactive education methods can meet the cultivation of English talents in the 21st century. How to maximize the advantages of this teaching approach? This paper discusses the learning characteristics of the group of college students, analyzing the characteristics of traditional models and interactive teaching models in university, and the need for a new approach to the teaching of English. This paper discusses the learning characteristics of the group of college students, analyzing the characteristics of traditional models and interactive teaching models in university, as well as their advantages and disadvantages. Furthermore, it expounds its practical methods from three different perspectives in interactive teaching. Furthermore, it expounds its practical methods from three different perspectives in interactive ways: people and people, people and the Internet, people and society. Eventually, It is a creative and efficient way to combine the two educational methods.

Keywords
College students, Interactive teaching method, Traditional teaching method.

1. Introduction

As China’s reform and opening up gradually intensifies and international exchanges continue to strengthen, China is in urgent need of all kinds of high-quality international talents in all walks of life. English, as one of the most commonly used languages in the world, is an important part of the educational path to cultivate all-round talents, and as universities are an important channel for delivering professionals to the society, university English education is of vital importance. Traditional teaching methods focus more on a single language itself, such as examination theories and techniques, grammar, vocabulary, reading and other basic language features. And with the popularization of Internet technology and the gradual increase in the demand for practical talents, the concept of interactive education is favored by teachers in major universities. We should pay attention to and understand the advantages and disadvantages of the traditional education mode and interactive education concept, take the advantages and disadvantages, remove the dregs and take the essence, find the balance between the two, and give play to the high efficiency of education.

2. Learning Characteristics of The University Student Population

The common age stage of Chinese college students is 18 to 22 years old, which is an adult stage with multi-dimensional characteristics such as autonomy, practicality, experience, as well as diversity and independence. Autonomy refers to the fact that college students have their own
goals and needs in the process of learning, and they have the right to choose the content and way of learning; practicality refers to the fact that the purpose of adult learning is to solve practical problems in the workplace and to improve their own abilities, and the content of learning needs to be practical; experience refers to the fact that the basis of adult learning is life and internship or work experience, and experience is enriched and improved through learning; diversity refers to the fact that Adult learning takes place in a variety of ways and forms, including self-study, training, seminars, social learning, etc.; adult learning requires self-management and organization, independent thinking and solving practical problems.

3. Characteristics of The Traditional College Teaching Method

The traditional education model of the classroom more emphasis on the teaching content, for the examination education, more to teach the examination skills and the basic characteristics of the language, such as the above mentioned grammar, vocabulary, listening and so on. At the same time, the teacher is the main body, the teacher from the subjective desire and experience, the students passively absorb the knowledge, the classroom interaction rate is low, and are large class teaching, personalized teaching can not meet.

3.1. Advantages of The Traditional College Teaching Method

Firstly, college teachers focus on test-taking skills and language basics, which is conducive to the development of college students’ input English-related skills, such as reading and listening, where Chinese students’ IELTS scores are much higher than the global average. Secondly, large class sizes (meaning class sizes of more than 50 students) are conducive to equal access to English teaching resources for all majors, as well as facilitating class management by schools and teachers.

3.2. Disadvantages of The Traditional College Teaching Method

The first is that teachers’ concepts are more backward, more emphasis on teaching content in the classroom, no innovative teaching methods, and a lack of reflection in teaching. At the same time, some teachers only for the sake of teaching tasks, no in-depth communication with students, poor ability to organize knowledge, ignoring the individual differences in student learning, not to mention the role of meaning construction in teaching. Secondly, students have stereotyped thinking and poor learning motivation. In the process of English teaching, students only passively accept knowledge and do not fully express their own views. In addition, teachers seldom provide opportunities for answering and discussing questions, which leads to some students not thinking deeply about the teaching knowledge and not connecting the old and new knowledge effectively. Finally, due to the large class teaching, speaking and writing cannot be one-on-one, personalized teaching, so some teachers ignore the importance of this teaching method is also known as "mute English", college students cannot open their mouths to speak English in the classroom, the practicality of the language has been completely ignored, and the workplace is the most extensive use of the spoken language, the teaching mode and the real needs of the workplace are out of touch with the university. The disconnection between the teaching mode and the real workplace demand indirectly leads to a significant reduction in the competitiveness of graduates’ employment.

4. Characteristics of The Interactive College Teaching Method

Interaction is a concept introduced into the field of teaching and learning from social psychology. It is the process by which two or more people communicate their feelings to each other, convey information and have an impact on both parties. At the same time, interaction requires that both parties must have an interest in communication and focus on receiving or expressing information that interests the speaker or listener. First of all, the "interactive"
teaching in the university classroom emphasizes the interaction between teachers and students, especially the student-centered teaching mode that aims at developing students' communicative competence, guiding accompanying and encouraging students to express themselves. It also creates a teaching situation in which teachers and students interact with each other, with the Internet and with society, promotes the teaching process, breaks down the traditional barriers to teaching that are limited by time, place and space, extends the teaching scene and realizes the dialectical unity of teaching and learning.

4.1. Advantages of Interactive College Teaching Method

First of all, college students are faced with the problem of employment, and now the most scarce in the workplace is the oral talent, communication is the most important part of the work, interactive teaching mode can improve students' speaking and writing ability, enhance the competitiveness of college students' employment, and is conducive to the promotion of quality education. Secondly, the teaching mode pays more attention to the practical and social aspects of English teaching, decentralizes the teacher's dominant role in teaching again, and students get the opportunity to learn independently, which is conducive to stimulating students' interest in learning, and the Internet and multimedia equipment, to understand and create a specific industry environment. At the same time, interactive teaching can target individual students, understand the students' learning progress and status, develop personalized learning plan, personalized education is satisfied. Finally, interactive teaching is a teaching method based on the comprehensive development of listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. It emphasizes that in the teaching process, the teacher's function as a carrier of knowledge and a medium is amplified, and through a variety of teaching activities, the teacher and the students make their own development and progress together.

4.2. Disadvantages of Interactive College Teaching Method

Based on China's special situation and huge population, and the current education model in China is still mostly test-based education, which requires teachers to transfer the knowledge and examination skills to students as the pursuit of the goal. Interactive teaching is a learning in which students are guided and accompanied by teachers to find the results by themselves, and this method is not applicable to all subjects. Secondly, China's teaching resources are unevenly distributed, and the educational resources and teacher quality of the top institutions are significantly higher than those of other ordinary institutions. The interactive teaching mode requires a high level of teacher strength, and ordinary institutions are unable to meet this demand and the corresponding supporting facilities. Finally, the main teaching body in most schools today is still the teacher, and the metamorphosis of the main body from teacher to student is a long process that requires social acceptance and the awakening of the public's traditional concepts of education as well as the support of the school.

5. Three Way of Interactive

There are three effective way to practice and enhance the effectiveness of interactive education, and they respectively propose requirements to teachers and students from different perspectives.

5.1. Interaction between People and People

Within the teacher, there are a total of two roles, student and teacher. Therefore, it can be subdivided into interactions between students and interactions between students and teachers. First of all the forms of interaction between students include but are not limited to: group discussions, speeches, debates, presentations, questions, and other forms. Take group discussion as an example, in the interactive teaching mode, the teacher first plays the audio of
the text and then puts forward the questions according to the text, the students are divided into
groups for discussion and each group sends a representative to summarize the group's
analytical ideas and methods. During the discussion, the teacher should participate in the
discussion of each group, understand the status and progress of each group, and play the role
of supervision and guidance. The teacher then guides the students through the discussion, not
giving answers, but providing clues to the answers and guiding the students to find the answers
themselves. This interactive mode of teaching allows answers to emerge from strife and debate,
and knowledge to be understood and utilized in the process of construction. Second, the
interaction between students and teachers. Forms of interaction between teachers and
students include, but are not limited to, lectures, questions, after-class assignments, prompts,
discussions, and other forms. Taking speech as an example, teachers can prepare topics related
to the content of the class before the class and assign them in the form of after-class homework,
so that students can prepare a speech about them in advance, for example,
1. what is your favorite animals?
2. Do you think it is reasonable for sacrificing animal habitats for economic development?
3. Explain the advantages and disadvantages in protecting environment?
Ensure that students speak on each topic, and then the teacher will comment and introduce the
topic of the paper. This method can "warm up" the content of the class, through the students' own thinking and interaction with the teacher, can stimulate the students' interest in learning, want to explore the theme of this paper. At the same time, the use of the method of speech, so
that students participate in teaching activities, the teacher plays the role of a listener, observing
the students' speech and behavior, and timely praise the students, and to follow the good
guidance, to cultivate the "output" of the oral ability to enhance the students' comprehensive English language skills.

5.2. Interaction between People and Internet
First of all, China has fully entered the Internet era, and teachers in all colleges and universities
should fully utilize online educational resources and multimedia equipment to update and expand their teaching methods and activities. For example, teachers can combine various online courses to match their offline teaching and include the online course scores in the assessment of the final semester grades, so that students will pay attention to the learning of the online English classroom. Secondly, nowadays there are enough online resources, when explaining reading, teachers can adopt the scenario teaching method, use multimedia equipment to play relevant audio-visual materials, try to create teaching situations related to real life and real language activities, reasonably combine with online resources to stimulate the students' learning interest, which will help the learning interest to digest, understand and absorb the target language. And in terms of teaching content, teachers can collect a huge amount of electronic materials through the Internet to supplement students with relevant background knowledge in the form of video, pictures and audio, a process that not only expands the teachers' knowledge base, but also supplements students' knowledge of the culture, literature, history and emotional needs behind the Western countries where English is the native language, expands students' learning space and realizes the two-way relationship between teachers and the Internet and students' two-way interaction with the Internet. Finally, as English lecturers in universities basically major in English or Business English, they know little about specialties other than non-language, and they have no understanding of some specific industry terminology and industry environments, which leads to a disconnect between the teaching objectives of universities and industry needs, and the practicability is drastically cut down. Teachers through the major authoritative catechism platform, so that students look for their own corresponding related industry English to learn professional English, and combined
with the offline basic English, maximize the educational nature of the Internet, enhance the students' employment competitiveness.

5.3. Interaction between People and Society

Take the business English major as an example, this major belongs to the language category, which requires a strong professional sensitivity to English and business industry, and needs to cultivate compound talents. The specialized courses carried out by the university cannot satisfy the cultivation of these talents, and it is necessary to extend the teaching space, interact with the society, understand and learn the working ability required in the real workplace. Teachers can apply to the university to utilize the time inside and outside the classroom and the summer and winter vacations to arrange students' English practice and social practice activities, and set up foreign trade practice classes to exercise students' professional application ability and social adaptability. At the same time, corresponding courses synchronized with social needs should be carried out, such as business negotiation, interpreting courses, cross-cultural communication, international business law, business writing and translation courses, so that the professional knowledge learned by the students can be applied to specific industry situations, and this kind of immersive teaching method interacting with the society can better enable them to make flexible use of the professional knowledge they have learned, and further improve and perfect the basic and professional skills of the students. Secondly, the university campus is also a small "society", teachers can organize and encourage their students to actively participate in a variety of English competitions and activities, such as English Speech Contest, English Debate Contest, Campus English Song Contest and so on, to create an English atmosphere, to explore personal potential, develop independent thinking ability and practical use of English. The students will be able to develop their potential, independent thinking ability and the ability to utilize English in practice. Through a series of activities and social practice, students interact with the society continuously, enhance their social adaptability, train their professional knowledge, break the time and place constraints of teaching in the traditional mode of teaching, extend the teaching space, and help to cultivate compound talents in the new era. For English majors need to learn English in the interaction with the society, and for non-English majors need to strengthen the interaction with the society to understand what kind of compound talents are needed in their own specialty.

6. Significance of The Interactive Teaching Method

Obviously, based on the above argument and analysis, overall, interactive education can significantly improve students' autonomy, innovation, and enthusiasm. This innovative method lays a solid foundation for core quality education and plays a model role in further deepening education reform. The following is an analysis of its expected significant impact.

6.1. Motivation of Interest

Teachers accept and carry out interactive teaching is conducive to stimulating students' interest in learning, guiding and developing their ability to learn independently. Einstein said: interest is the best teacher. Interest is a powerful spiritual impetus to develop students' thinking and promote students' active learning, and it is the inner force that pushes them to seek knowledge. Once students have a strong interest in something, they will have the desire to take the initiative to understand and explore. Strong interest and a strong desire to learn will drive students to put all their energy into the learning process, improve the conscientiousness of learning, received twice the result with half the effort.
6.2. Replacement of Principal Status
Interactive English teaching establishes the students' main position. In the traditional teaching situation, teachers have been playing the role of active transmission of knowledge, students are in the state of passive acceptance of knowledge, has been "fed", the creativity and enthusiasm of the students have not been able to be released. Interactive teaching takes students as the main body of teaching activities, respects students' differences, takes personalized teaching as its entry point, follows students' psychological characteristics and cognitive processes, returns the right of active learning to students, actively explores the flashpoints and shortcomings of each student, and lays a good foundation for divergent thinking and logical thinking.

6.3. Breaking Down of Time and Space Restrictions
The traditional teaching mode is limited to the classroom and class time, the specific application of knowledge and students' extracurricular time are neglected, and only filled in the form of after-school homework, the flexibility and efficiency of teaching is limited. Interactive teaching breaks the time and space limitations, using multimedia and the Internet to extend the teaching platform and scene, teachers can use a variety of network educational resources and software to expand the teaching content, supplement extracurricular knowledge, realize the interaction between students and teachers outside the classroom, mobilizes students' learning enthusiasm and sense of participation, and design relevant teaching activities to improve the diversity of teaching content and methods.

6.4. Growth Together through Interaction
"The foreign language classroom is namely a society where students engage in simulated communication and an entity of language drills, where students are opponents of each other, goals of each other, means of each other, corrections of each other, and also influences of each other." Teachers can also find problems in their interactions with students, whether it is teaching methods or gaps in their expertise, which are worth reflecting on and correcting. Teachers and students walk hand in hand, make progress together, and learn from each other, which is also conducive to the cultivation of teacher-student relationships and the effectiveness of classroom teaching.

7. Conclusion
The adoption of an interactive teaching model does not mean that traditional teaching methods should be completely abandoned. Any one teaching method is not omnipotent, nor exclusive, there is a certain complementarity between them. Interactive teaching mode teachers and teaching equipment have certain high requirements, part of the underdeveloped areas of education can not be popularized, and China's huge number of students and the national conditions and student personality is not necessarily applicable to interactive teaching mode, which is also the traditional "duck" mode of education is widely accepted by the degree of one of the reasons. How to combine and unify the traditional teaching mode and interactive teaching mode is an important issue to be solved in the process of education reform in the future.

References


