



ISSN Print: 2394-7500
ISSN Online: 2394-5869
Impact Factor: 5.2
IJAR 2015; 1(9): 16-18
www.allresearchjournal.com
Received: 09-06-2015
Accepted: 11-07-2015

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Role of English Skills in Futuristic Trends in Physical Education and for Sporting Fraternity

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Abstract

The main purpose of this paper is to determine the role of English Skills in Futuristic Trends in Physical Education and for Sporting Fraternity. The attempt shows that English plays an important role in sports and games, as a vital component of social and cultural life. The English language provides a concrete highway across the distance which allows for a smooth communication of thought and ideas. This is the undeniable reality of today. This paper will also support the argument that interaction with other people is an important skill to have later in life. It is important to learn how to behave in group situation with different kinds of peoples and convince them the ideas and thoughts in the mind. English plays a vital role in sports to interact or communicate with others. As a continuance of this it is also shown that we must make extra efforts in learning and using English in order to maintain a competitive edge over others. Using English as a medium of education should not be seen as offensive but should be thought of as an investment towards development and empowerment.

Keywords: English language, sports, communication, physical education

1. Introduction

India has a vast pool of talent and its disposal; there is no doubt in it. However, there is something which is holding it back from forging ahead in full throttle. One factor, which has attracted a lot of controversy, is the knowledge of English language and effective communication in it.

We acquire language in a culture with other speakers and not from parental genes. For example an infant born to Punjabi parents but adopted and brought up from birth by English speakers in Britain will have physical characteristics inherited from his or her natural parents, but will inevitably speak English.

The process whereby a language is passed on from one generation to the next is described as "Cultural Transmission"¹. We acquire our first language as children in a culture. The ability to communicate in a language is the primary factor that distinguishes human beings from animals. And it is the ability to communicate well that distinguishes one individual from another.

1.1 Communication is the exchange of meanings between individual through a common system of symbols- I.A. Richards.

Communication is an exchange of facts, ideas, opinions or emotions by two or more persons- W.H. Norman and Summer.

According to Peter Little Communication is the process by which information is transmitted between individuals and organizations so that an understanding response results.

2. Communicative and Informative signals

We should first distinguish between specifically communicative signals and those which may be unintentionally informative signals². Someone listening to you may become informed about you through a number of signals that you have not intentionally sent. She may note that you have a cold (you sneezed) that you are not at ease (you shifted around in your seat) and that you are from some other part of the country (you have a strange accent). However when you use language and tell this person "I would like to apply for the vacant post in your college" – you are normally considered to be intentionally communicating something.

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The essence of communication is language. The command a person has over a language determines how effectively he is able to communicate and make himself understood as well as understand others. Effective communication has become a prerequisite for success in professional and personal lives.

For most of us Indians English is second language learning (Learning a language i.e. Spoken in a surrounding community) experience. That way it becomes more of learning a skill. i.e. L-S-R-W Therefore we need to develop these skill.

Communication is a vital life skill. Its relevance goes far beyond the higher employability of those who are good at it. The commonly perceived utility is that it makes you a better businessman, employee or leader, but a moment of introspection reveals a far deeper scope. Communication is the medium of interaction between man and his environment, not just at the workplace, but also in relationships, in all aspects of everyday life, including the basic human tendency to express. So, training young people at communicating better is a very obvious mandate from education systems. In modern times, we live in a highly globalized world leading to a information synergy across the planet. The common thread in sharing of most knowledge across the world, of science, technology, education, advanced learning, business, trade, and all sorts of partnerships in English. The English language is a vital tool that facilitates due process, with a common understanding across geographies and cultures, with rapidly expanding relevance. Thus it is increasingly improbable for people from any walk of life, to maximize their success without having a strong grasp of the English language. Figuratively, as societies breach distances between them, language barriers entail a communication path which is a combination of tarmac roads, dirt tracks, muddy alleys, rocky terrains, hills and valleys. At a psychological level, there is no denying how confidence plays a crucial role in the success of any individual, and the lack of impedes progress. It is In this context that one must realize, that having a strong command over the English language is a huge confidence booster for any professional or athlete as they no longer have to be shy or tongue tied when asked to express their views.

It is also important to talk about the elephant in the room, is English for everybody? Do sports people even need English since their fundamental objective is to play; a physical act in principle barely dependent upon English fluency. My contention is that with an increasingly compounding magnitude, the futuristic trends in physical education dictate the need of better English skills as vital, even for the sporting fraternity.

Training materials for any sport today are sourced from all across the globe, the latest techniques developed by researchers across the world, many a times involving heavy use of technology, need high amounts of theoretical training along with physical practice. And thus to benefit from cutting edge global training materials, students must be able to understand English well, as it is the medium used by the researchers themselves. The essence of a new sporting technique may be easily lost in translation of languages and the time gap required for translations to take effect. Sportsmen with strong English skills will be able to read and explore the latest information and news about their field real time, thus bringing them at par with their global competition. The development of any sport is crucially dependent on funding, as money is required for training and playing infrastructure. The biggest source of this funding in the

modern day, stems from the popularity of the sport amongst the people, who are the audience of the highly lucrative television and multimedia coverage of sporting events and icons. Thus it is vital for sportsmen to be brand ambassadors for their sport ad represent themselves in a language that is understood by audience across the globe. For example, cricketing great Sachin Tendulkar barely completed his schooling but his fluent use of English language has won him fans across the world who want to hear his thoughts and feel inspired by them. This phenomenon is exemplified by various other international Indian cricket stars. If, Olympic, boxing medalist Vijender Singh can fluently speak English despite his rural origins like most of our sports persons, then he would definitely draw global attention to Indian boxing and lead to the development and promotion of the sport. This logic applies for all sports.

Fears that the growing dominance to the English language is a threat to our cultural integrity and own language traditions are misplaced. People should no doubt take pride in their mother tongue but knowledge of one language does not imply disrespect to another. Coming from a land in which there are nearly twenty two official language who can understand the importance of communication in English more than us? But ironically that seems to be the problem with each state burning a candle for its language people have lost sight of the big picture- communication. People need to be more objective and understand the simple fact that learning English is our step towards a better future.

3. Conclusion

Somehow we fail to realize that to succeed in a global market, the knowledge of English plays a vital role. Let us face it, it has become a world language. We have pool of talent which is reflected for lack of communication and wasted due to one small problem which can be easily overcome. Knowledge of English is necessary not just when a person is seeking employment but right from the start of his learning process to a better understanding of the subject.

Speaking of cultures, it is also pertinent to note that team sports in India and other multicultural nations often involve players from completely different language backgrounds. These days many teams even have international players on exchange programs or in competitions. In this scenario language barriers impede team work and coordination and can often lead to disastrous results. While playing the game, quick communication understood by the entire team could well be the difference between victory and defeat. Thus even for successful team work and coordination the understanding and use of a common language assumes great importance and the English language provides this platform across the world.

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