



# TEACHING VOCABULARY FOR THE ENHANCEMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Yogita Verma

Asst. Prof., Department of Humanities, RJIT, BSF Academy, Tekanpur, Gwalior

Email-dollyogita@yahoo.co.in

## Abstract

Teaching English language to regional language students has always been very challenging for teachers and for that they have been engaging in experiments and finding the different- different ways to teach English language. As we know that students are always active and curious to know new things .This paper is an attempt to highlight the hidden curiosity in students and how they are curious to know whatever come in front of them so for that as we enter in the class we should give them some different words and start with asking questions like:

Q-What does it mean?

Q-What is the antonym of this word?

Q-What is the synonym of this word?

Q-What are the differences between so and so words?

Q-Do you know the words having same sounds with different spellings and different meaning?

Q-Do you know a particular word with many uses?

Q-Give one word substitution for this word?

Like this if we start the class then we find that to ask something new we have to learn something new .These questions are just like a tool for the enhancement of knowledge for the teachers as well as for the students.

## Introduction

This paper shows how to make the language comprehensible to know the meanings , differences synonyms , antonyms , homonyms

and one word substitutions . The teachers of 21st century must be innovative, imaginative, and resourceful and adopt new techniques to teach vocabulary. There are several methods to teach vocabulary which I have experimented in my lectures. As I enter in my class I write some words on the black / white board to ask first of all what does it mean or whether they know the synonyms or antonyms of particular word or they know the difference between these two. It is always a pre lesson plan. It always makes the lesson interesting which we are going to teach in the next class.

## Methods

Synonyms and antonyms are very interesting. For that either we can give direct words or some fill in the blanks exercise. For example, Give the synonyms of given words.

Synonyms

Apposite : suitable

Dissipate : waste

Incessant : continues

Melancholy : gloomy

Prodigal : extravagant

Now give the antonyms of given words.

Antonyms

Boisterous × calm

Gaity × mourning

Ominous × auspicious

Savage × civilized

Tranquil × agitated

In English language there are hundreds of words with the same sounds and different meanings and spellings thus it is very essential

to know the difference between them to comprehend language. In speaking the result may not lead to any disaster but in writing it definitely causes disastrous. A very small spelling also makes a great difference. To make the students aware of difference between fill in the blanks technique is very effective. For instance,

Fill in the blanks with the proper words .

A-

1 - The bird will \_\_\_\_\_ in no time . (soar , sore )

2 - Can you \_\_\_\_\_ any example . ( cite , site )

3 - I would \_\_\_\_\_ the job . ( except , accept )

4 - At last he achieved his \_\_\_\_\_ ( goal , gaol )

5 - She was the \_\_\_\_\_ worker in the field . ( loan , lone )

B- Distinguish between the following pairs of words :

1 - course, coarse

2 - draught, drought

3 - stationary, stationery

4 - veil, vale

5 - weather, whether

Asking some different words is a small task given just in the beginning of the class to develop interest in students. It normally takes 5 to 10 minutes. It is just like simple game or we can say it is warm up activity. Here is a simple game for word building or we can call it vocabulary brainstorm where we have to write some letters on the black/white board and each student is asked to write down on one paper all the letters then they have to make as many words as they can provided the middle letter. Now we can ask how many words of four or more word can you make from the letters shown? And every word must contain the central letter. It is a timed game. The student with maximum words wins. Here is an example:

V            R

A

B            E

Example: Brave, Rave, Aver, Beaver, Bereave

One word substitution as the phrase indicates itself are the words that replace group of words or a full sentence effectively without creating any kind of ambiguity in the meaning of the sentences. Like the word "Autobiography" can be used in the place of sentence "The life story of a man written by himself ". It is very important to write precisely and speak in a single word. Generally, we speak or write in a garrulous way. But it is seen that precise words are always understood easily by all. At the time we become verbose which is not required and we are required to talk or speak precisely. This not only makes the language easily comprehensible but also makes it beautiful. The other way, we can say that these words are used to bring an effect of compression in any kind of writing , when we have to write a lot with in limitation of time and space , there these kind of words can prove quite handy. In English language there are a lots of single words for a group of words that can be used effectively to make the writing to the point that to without losing the meaning of the context for example, Give one Word Substitution

1- One who is able to both the hands together in writing and playing

Ambidextrous

2 - One who compiles dictionary

Lexicographer

3- One who is not sure of the existence of God

Agnostic

4 - A fictitious name used by an author

Pseudonym

5 - A person with a long experience of any occupation

Veteran

**Conclusion:-**

Teaching vocabulary through the question answer technique can lead to proficiency in the use of English language. It has been always a creating meaningful situation in the classroom. The class can be involved in an interaction session where there is an exchange of questions and answer. Vocabulary is indeed one of the most important elements of any language. Teaching vocabulary is normally done at the pre reading stage of a lesson therefore it is very

essential to teach vocabulary in the beginning only because the learners are then ready to comprehend the lesson which the teacher is going to teach the next and like this paper several methods are here to give students more opportunity to communicate and practice more English .

**References:**

- 1 - A handbook of teaching English , Sharda Kaushik, Published Orient Blackswan 2009,
- 2 - Innovation in English language teaching , Z. N. Patil Published by Orient blackswan 2012.
- 3 - Teaching of English , Mohammad Aslam Published by Cambridge University , New Delhi 2003,
- 4 - WWW. target study .com