

WAYS TO BOOST STUDENTS' ENGLISH LANGUAGE SKILLS

Nowadays young generation divides into two parts, roughly speaking. They are: some goes with the flow of life and some are hard-working. Now we talk about them. Learning a language is more than sitting in a classroom and trying to absorb all the information from the teacher. It also requires extra effort of you. Doing some additional work is important if you really want to boost your language skills. We propose a list of it.

DISCOVER YOUR PERSONAL LEARNING STYLE. We are all different and it is the differences that make the world so diverse and complete. Since every individual is unique, the way each person learns is also unique. We all have different learning styles and it is important that you know which one is yours. Knowing the way students learn best will make them understand themselves better and enjoy their learning experiences. This is the first step towards boosting students' language skills.

CREATE YOUR OWN DICTIONARY. If students are a visual learner, and can only remember things best when you write them, we think a personalised dictionary could work very well for them. Have a separate notepad with and write down the unknown words come across. Under each word, jot down its meaning, as well as a sentence created by showing that students know how to use it accurately. If students have a native friend to take a look at it and check that it is all right, that would be perfect.

LISTEN TO A VARIETY OF THINGS. Listening to a second language can give students almost the same benefit as reading it. They all help them to expand their vocabulary, enhance knowledge of grammar, speak properly and so forth. But there is a slight difference between them; Listening will show, loud and clear, how the words are pronounced. This is the key to making themselves understood when they speak. Listening to a variety of things is also important for boosting students' English language skills. News, radio, movies, songs, cooking programmes, sports... They will all help.

READ DIFFERENT GENRES. Regardless of the subject, reading is a very beneficial activity. This mental stimulation will boost students' memory, their analytical thinking and writing skills. It will also expand students' vocabulary. The way reading helps to express themselves better in the first language is no different with the second one. Studies have shown that reading in a second language can potentially enhance students' reading, writing, listening and speaking skills. Read as much – and in as many genres – as students can.

STUDY GRAMMAR. Many students think that studying grammar is boring. To communicate and understand things effectively, a good knowledge of the workings of the language is necessary. Also, not everything that is commonly heard in our daily lives is 100% grammatically accurate. Therefore, some grammatical rules will help us understand why we should say this instead of that.

SPEAK AS MUCH AS YOU CAN. Verbal expression can be an obstacle to many non-native speakers when they don't have good pronunciation, or when they can't organize their ideas and express what it is in their heads clearly. To avoid shame and embarrassment, people tend to keep themselves in their comfort zones and don't say much. However, the more students speak, the more their speech organs (like lips, teeth, palate, etc.) will get used to the physical mechanics of making the sounds of English, thus helping students to pronounce them precisely as time goes by. It is all a matter of practice and patience. Do not wait for a native speaker to be around you to start training. You can begin today. Start by talking to yourself in front of the mirror; later students can be part of a conversation group with non-native speakers. Students can also practice by repeating the words that are hard for you to re-produce, or even tongue twisters.

SURROUND YOURSELF WITH THE TARGET LANGUAGE. Perhaps students are on a tight budget, and traveling abroad can't be on your list right now. However, that doesn't mean that you can't be immersed in a second language. Students can surround themselves with the target language by doing many things.

1. Label objects that you have in your house.
2. Change the language of your social media and electronic devices.

3. Stop watching TV, movies, and Netflix in your mother tongue.

4. Host a foreign student.

TRAVEL ABROAD. Language is also culture, and many aspects of it you will only understand if students spend some time in the country where the target language is spoken. Being immersed in a foreign language also leads to more significant and effective learning, since you can experience it with all your senses: students see, students touch, students listen, students smell, students taste and, of course, students speak!