

Exploring the Significance of Speaking Skill for EFL Learners

* Shamim Akhter, PhD Scholar (Corresponding Author)



Abstract

In the era of globalization, people need communication and for this purpose, communication skills perform a key role. To be successful in different fields of life, all people need to get proficiency overall skills of the language. Among these skills, speaking occupies the core position. Without this skill, the purpose of communication cannot be performed effectively. English has become the universal language and all people of the world can communicate with other people through English. People need interactions in a present global world and for interaction with all people across the world, one common language is needed, and English fulfills this need. People can understand and can be understood by this medium of communication. Akhter, Qureshi, Hassan, and Barira (2020) illustrate that English has become an international language. Owing to its significance in this globalized era, it becomes imperative for the learners to get command over the skills which fulfill the task of communication. For EFL learners, the need to acquire competency over these skills increases many times. To survive in the 21st century successfully, the knowledge of English and command overall skills are essential. So, to keep pace with the trends of the modern world, EFL learners should gain knowledge of the English Language. To improve their communication especially speaking skills better, the ideal place is the classroom. The issues of EFL Learners should be interpreted by the instructors. They should introduce such strategies in the classroom which improve their all skills in general and speaking skills in particular. The undertaken research is an attempt to highlight the significance of speaking skills for EFL Learners. Moreover, the present study also explains the various effective methods and techniques to enhance EFL Learners' speaking skills.

Keywords: Globalization, EFL, Communication; English Classrooms; Proficiency; Speaking Skills; Strategies

Introduction

Undoubtedly, the English language has gained the status of an international language due to its countless users. It is the sole language that is spoken and perceived widely. In every field of life throughout the world, people use it. It has become the language of research, education, business, the internet, travel and tourism, media and newspapers, software, medicine, engineering, information and technology, entertainment, banking, and so on. Nowadays, communication is carried out throughout the world among people through one common language is English. More than 84% of research studies use the English language whether these publications are about natural science, mathematics, humanity, social sciences, agriculture, business, fashion designing, internet, and so on (RAO, 2019). Not only publications but almost all books at higher education level are written in English. Owing to the importance of English, EFL learners want to gain knowledge of English to progress in this technologically skilled world of globalization. In the learning process of the English language, four basic skills, listening, speaking, reading, and writing are important. In the absence of these four basic skills, the learning of English is not possible (Boonkit, 2010). Nowadays, a significant change has been observed in the learning and teaching of the English language (Xu, Akhter, & Qureshi, 2020).

Among these skills, Speaking is considered an important skill. This skill is used in effective communication and communication is the basic need of the present world. People cannot survive without communication. They need to express their thoughts, views, and opinion and this need can be fulfilled through language. People need to communicate with others in this global village and this purpose is fulfilled utilizing English. This is only possible when they can express their ideas in English. For this purpose, they need to develop speaking skills. Without speaking skills, non-native speakers of English cannot communicate with the people of other countries who speak different languages.

* School of Languages, Civilisation and Philosophy, Universiti Utara Malaysia, Malaysia

So, speaking skill occupies a prominent place in the communication process especially when the mother tongue is not being exploited for communication and the medium of communication is a foreign language. English is widely used everywhere in the world for communication. For this purpose, special attention should be given to improve the speaking skill of EFL Learners. By getting command over speaking skills, they will be able to communicate with native speakers of English as well as other international people. Bailey (2005) and Goh (2007) explain the strategies which may be effective to improve the speaking skill. They argue that the syllabus should be designed carefully, the teaching method should be changed and tasks and material should be introduced in the classroom to improve speaking skills. Apart from this, speaking assessment tasks should be organized.

Speaking skill is given vital importance during the teaching and learning process of foreign language throughout history(Nazara, 2011). Recently, speaking skills enjoy higher status because their importance is being increased dramatically due to various reasons. It has become the language of international communication. It promises for bright future for people who have excellent command over speaking skills. They can get jobs in foreign countries because of their communication skill. It serves the purpose of the main gate for securing lucrative jobs. Richards and Renandya (2002) State that the majority of non-native learners learn English to get command over speaking skills.

Owing to the importance of English in the present scenario, to introduce effective teaching and learning material, the best teaching techniques, activities, and other useful strategies is the need of the hour to improve the speaking skill of EFL learners. They should provide such an environment where they can easily develop their speaking skill. Several studies have been conducted which tended to enhance the speaking skill of EFL Learners. But EFL learners are facing problems in learning speaking skills. They find themselves in a fix while speaking. To communicate with others in English is an uphill task for them. Hinkel (2011) Argues that it is a challenging task to get command over speaking skills. Significant research works should be carried out from students' perspectives and teachers should be aware of the importance of this skill. They should provide proper guidance to learners in this context.

Literature review

In the process of learning a foreign language, all skills especially communication skills occupy a significant place. They are called productive or active skills because they keep the learners active. Since reading and listening are called the receptive skills in language learning and use, writing and speaking are the other two productive skills necessary to be incorporated in the advancement of successful communication(Boonkit, 2010). Of all the four macro English skills, speaking seems to be the most important skill needed for communication(Zaremba, 2006). Fruitful communication is carried out through speaking skills and it is advantageous for learners and business organizations. It helps seek lucrative job opportunities (Osborn, 2008). Zaremba (2006) Researches the importance of speaking skills and maintains that speaking skills or communication skills should be placed ahead of work experience, motivation, and academic credentials as criteria for new recruitment for employment. The limited opportunities are given to EFL Learners of speaking English in and outside of the classrooms (Zhang, 2009).

Speaking for special communication typically happens in contexts where speaking performance is conducted for an audience in differing circumstances. The principles of public speaking are also intertwined with the development of speaking for special communication. When a speech involving an audience is taken into consideration, the act of speaking is considered to be more complicated than general everyday conversation and several other skills are consequently included in the speaking delivery process, e.g. choosing topics, organizing thoughts, tailoring the message, and adapting to listener feedback(Lucas, 2001).

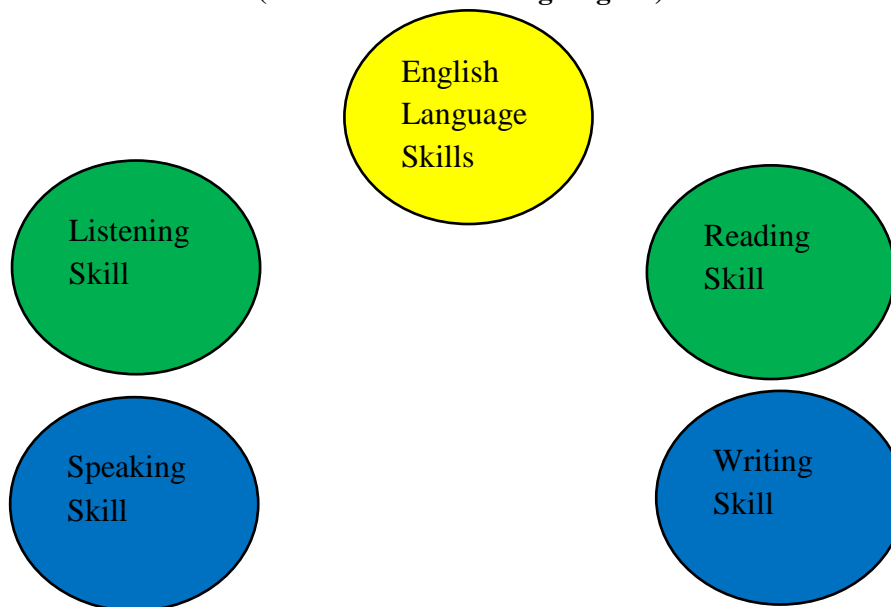
Owing to the significance of the speaking skill, it should be incorporated in EFL classrooms. It plays an important role in enhancing the capabilities of learners in studies as well as in getting opportunities. Such activities should be provided to the students which enhance their fluency in speaking skill (Tam, 1997). Confidence and competence usually lead to strengths of English speaking skills. Patil (2008) Has stated that building up the learner's confidence to reduce the fear of making errors is the main concern that the teacher should consider making the learner feel comfortable with their language use. Confidence and competence in speaking may be established from proper syllabus design, methods of teaching, and sufficient tasks and materials (Bailey, 2005; Songsiri, 2007). For the usefulness of speaking, Shumin (2002) investigates that many factors are involved, comprising

listening skills, sociocultural factors, sentimental factors, and other linguistic and sociolinguistic proficiency such as grammatical, discourse, sociolinguistic, and strategic competence. To express meaning, one should comprehend the words and sentences. They should learn how words produce various sounds and how sentences are made by words and how words convey their meaning separately and collectively in the sentences. This understanding will lead them to learn English properly and paves the way for the successful development of speaking skills

The Basic Language Skills of English

English is enjoying the status of an international language. That is why all EFL learners endeavor to get the knowledge of English. For getting the knowledge of English, four basic skills are involved, and they are listening, speaking, reading, and writing. As Fig.1 shows these skills.

(Basic Skill of Learning English)



(Fig.1: Four skills to acquire the knowledge of English Language)

These four skills can be called receptive and productive skills. Listening and reading are called passive skills or receptive skills, whereas, speaking and writing can be called active skills or productive skills.

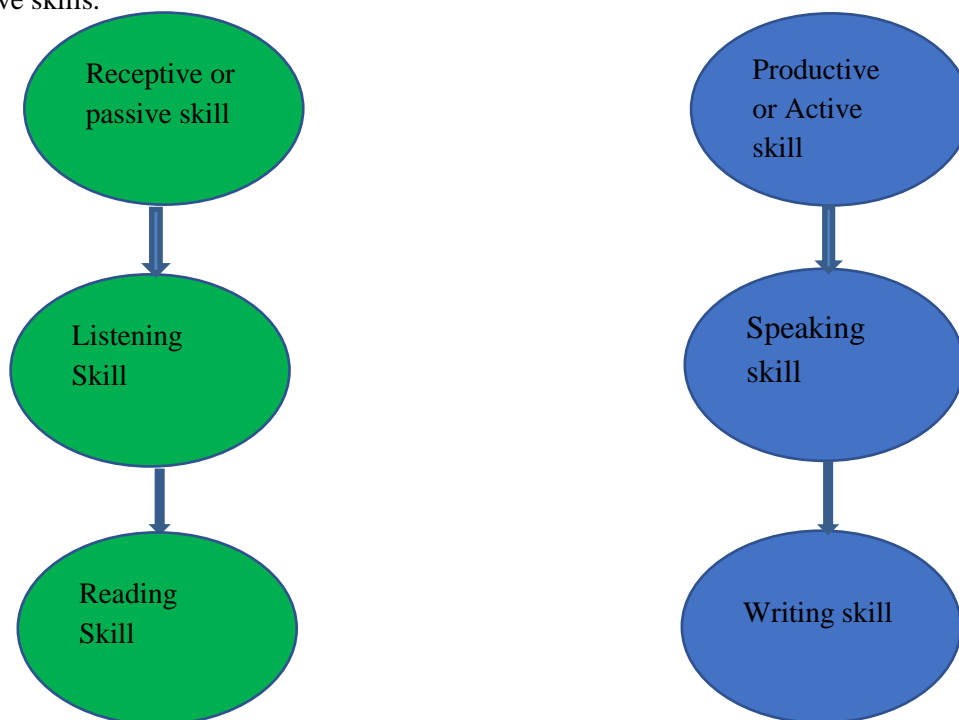


Fig. 2 shows the division of basic languages skills)

Figure 2 shows that productive skills are speaking and writing, and Receptive skills are Listening and reading. Productive skills are most important because the EFL learners have to produce learned language in form of written text or oral context. Whereas in Receptive skills, the learners remain passive and they do not need to produce sentences. They just focus on listening. In Receptive skills, they just listen or read the written material without any intention to produce language. That is why productive skills are crucial because the learners make sentences for spoken or written purposes. For this skill, they need to gain knowledge of several things such as vocabulary, collocations, and grammar, etc. According to Akhter, and Nordin (2020), for non-native learners, collocation plays a key role in the acquisition of the English language. Its remarkableness is indisputable for them. Collocation is the unit of lexis, that is why, its remarkableness in the acquisition of the English language is an admitted fact (Xu et al., 2020). The practice is also required for this purpose. Consequently, speaking and writing are regarded as active skills because they keep the learners active to produce the language.

The Importance of Speaking Skill

At present, the need for speaking mastery in English has been dramatically increasing due to the strengthening position of English as a language for international communication (Nazara, 2011). No doubt, without language, there will be no communication. Language is needed to convey ideas, feelings, and thoughts. People share their problems utilizing language. Language is the beauty of life. To fulfill the task of communication, speech is required. So, speech is imperative for communication. Owing to the importance of speaking skills, EFL learners struggle hard to get command over productive skills. Without language, there is no society and without speech, there is no human language. The language devoid of speech is just like a script. Without speech, language is like a drama without characters. Language is used in different situations to convey messages, share ideas, and communicate with others. This productive skill is used by people while working, enjoying the moments of life, and so on. Understanding develops among people due to effective communication. A communication gap creates problems. Effective communication can be carried out through productive skills.

To run any system smoothly, the speakers must be well equipped with the speaking skill. People are attracted if the speakers have mastery over productive and receptive skills in general and speaking skills in particular. It is a well-known proverb that a person is hidden under his tongue. The tongue is the interpreter of the intellect. The merit of a man is known from his speech. It can be maintained that speech awards the people with several benefits. With help of speaking skills, they develop good relations with other people. They feel pleasure by sharing their thoughts. They get better job opportunities due to their speaking skills. Through interaction, they understand other people clearly. It is not an exaggeration to say that clear thought is reflected through clear speech. The person with good speaking skills can attract the attention of the people and engage them until the delivery of his/her message. Speaking skill ensures the lucrative careers. The activities of social life can be promoted due to this productive skill.

Furthermore, persons can get their desired aims, purposes, and targets using appropriate language for communication (Rao, 2019). So, language needs that communication should be carried out among people across the world. Since English has won the place of international language and all over the world its speakers are found, it assists people to communicate with the people belonging to diverse regions, states, countries, and continents of the world. In the process to gain an understanding of a foreign or second language, this active skill performs a significant role. Brown and Abeywickrama (2010) Narrate that this productive skill is important from this point of view that the learners are judged upon the most in actual life situations. No special attention is given to teaching this skill. EFL learners are being taught this skill just as to memorize the dialogues or repeat the drills. However, it is the demand of the advanced world that learners should have better command over communication skill and this task can be achieved if EFL teacher teaches them in a way that their learners will be able to develop and polish their capability of speaking skills. Due to improved speaking skills, they will be able to perform effectively in actual life situations.

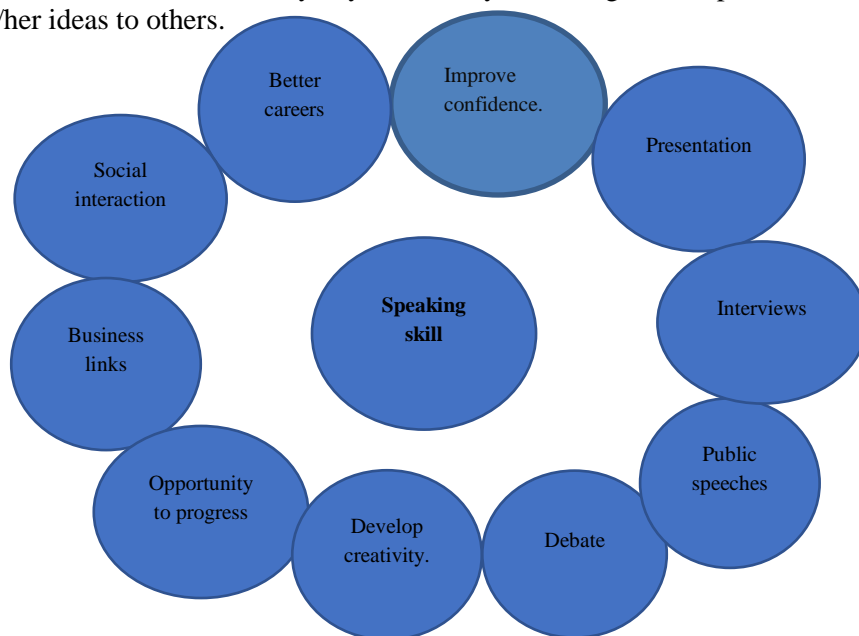
Regretfully, speaking skill is undervalued in EFL/ESL classrooms. Teachers just focus on traditional methods that promote cramming habits and learners become passive listeners. They show no interest in learning English. The learning of English becomes a nightmare for them and some of them say goodbye to their studies. Speaking skill is ignored whereas this skill is imperative for

employment. And communication rather than technology is needed for employment. In EFL classrooms, attention is given to reading and writing. This important skill is neglected. That is why learners are not able to pronounce even a single sentence. But recently, stress is being laid to improve the speaking skill for the attainment of desired aims. Additionally, English is the means to get employment opportunities and to survive in this global village successfully.

Bueno (2006) Narrates that EFL learners find speaking skills problematic. For them, speaking English is an uphill task. Many factors are involved in this challenging situation. The poor teaching method is one of them. Teachers do not focus on the speaking skill. They just stress reading and writing. Lack of practice is also one factor. Students are not provided with opportunities where they do practice speaking skills. Shyness and lack of confidence are also its causes. Speaking is regarded as an important skill. EFL Learners learn English from the primary level and the majority of them are unable to speak English fluently after completing their higher degrees. Several Higher degree holders face problems when they are supposed to communicate in English. This challenging situation can be overpowered due to several reasons. EFL learners should be aware of the significance of speaking skills and they should endeavor to gain this skill. Because this skill is important for them to keep pace with the trends of the modern world.

Speaking skill is a challenging task because EFL Learners have to make sentences without planning. It is not easy for EFL or ESL learners to make sentences without the knowledge of grammar and its structure. They need sufficient vocabulary to speak. Vocabulary also occupies an important place in language learning as Akhter, Tribhuvan, and Qureshi (2020) argue that vocabulary is the heart of language. Akhter, Anwar, and Qureshi (2019) Opine that vocabulary learning is one of the challenging tasks in a foreign language classroom. So, non-native speakers of English confront various issues during the procedure of learning grammar and its structure. As speaking skill holds a prominent place during the process of communication, individuals attempt to acquire this skill to be in contact with the whole public across the world.

Furthermore, this communicative skill is required to settle down well in their careers. People are assessed at the time of the interview through their speaking skills. If the person conveys his/ her ideas effectively to the interviewers, he/she is considered a talented person. Many applicants are selected at the time of the interview due to their speaking skills. Additionally, the person having the impressive communicative ability, can get the importance of the heads, interviewers, boss, audience, and so on. Words have the magical power to catch the attention of the people. The good speaker casts a spell over the audience with the magic of his/ her words. Sometimes, the speaker with the beauty of his/her words keeps the audience engaged in such a way that they forget their surroundings and are fully lost to the speech or talk that is being carried out. Briefly, it may be said that speaking skill performs the crucial task, and the way, style, and way of talking of the speaker also count how he/she delivers his/her ideas to others.



(Fig.3: The Importance of Speaking Skills)

Figure 3 shows the importance of speaking. Speaking skill is needed for the above-mentioned factors.

Speaking skill is important for them who have a desire to acquire knowledge of the English language. It is necessary for those who want to get better job opportunities. It becomes imperative for those who are ready to boost up their business. This skill plays its role to raise the confidence level of persons. It makes people well equipped to take part in the debate, discussion, and speech competitions. It makes people capable to develop good social relationships with others. It raises the creativity skill. People are prepared well due to this skill to attend any difficult interview. Presentation is delivered impressively and so on. EFL learners can get mastery over this skill through practice in the EFL classroom. After getting competency over this skill, they will be able to communicate effectively in and outside of the classrooms.

The purpose of teaching Speaking Skill in EFL Classrooms

The world has become a global village due to fast modes of communication and the latest inventions in every sphere of life. People need to convey their ideas, feeling, and thoughts. They express and share their thoughts with people across the world. To communicate with other people is the need of the day. For the accomplishment of their tasks and desires, they share their experiences, knowledge, thoughts, and opinions with other people. To perform this function of communication, the significance of speaking skill increases. To survive in this technologically skilled world, all non-native nations of English Languages are emphasizing the learning of English. And for effective communication, they are stressing to improve the productive skills mainly the speaking skill. All EFL /ESL learners are realizing the fact that enhancing the speaking skill is the requirement of this era to keep pace with the challenges of this global market.

The question arises why this is an important speaking skill. Why should EFL teachers focus to develop this skill? The answer is simple that it is the most demanded skill in this era. It is needed at the time of interviews to express knowledge. It is needed for an effective presentation. Presentation and speech leave a good impression when thoughts are well organized and explained beautifully by keeping in view the rules of grammar. Businessmen need to flourish their business, and this is possible when they interact with other businessmen to expand their business across the world. For interaction with non-native language businessmen, they need a mode of communication. When businessmen have good command over speaking skill, they gain wonderful results. Traders, doctors, showbiz people, politicians, and players, etc. need to communicate with other people. They express their feeling and thoughts and for this purpose which skill is required. The required skill is speaking.

Since speaking skill occupies a core place in several spheres of life, it becomes imperative for EFL/ESL learners to pay special heed to this desired skill. Moreover, it is strongly recommended that instructors implant fruitful techniques and activities in the classrooms which ensure the improvement of the learners’ speaking skills. The instructors should engage EFL learners in the speaking process. EFL/ESL learners ‘speaking skills can be improved if they are provided opportunities for practice to speak. It is said that practice makes a man perfect. So, to make EFL learners perfect in speaking skills, practice is needed. Practice develops their speaking skill enormously. The practice gradually improves their speaking skill. They gain confidence and start speaking. With time, they will be in a position to participate in discussion and debate. And they will start organizing their thoughts in their way. They can present their ideas in front of the whole class and audience properly.

Three Kinds of Speaking Situations

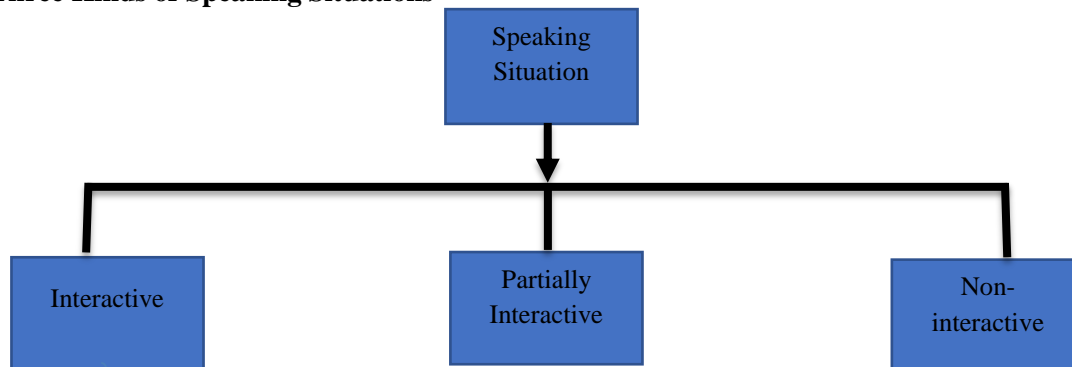
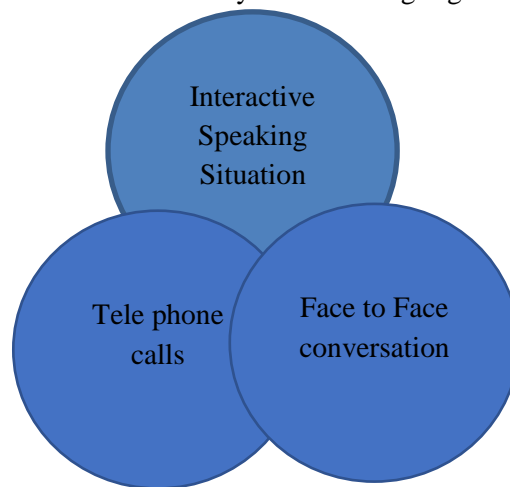


Fig.4 shows the speaking situation)

The speakers can convey their ideas impressively utilizing speaking skills. Interactive, partially interactive, and non-interactive are involved in speaking situations (Rao, 2019). What is an interactive speaking situation? It can be understood by the following Figure.5



(Figure 5 shows the Interactive speaking situation)

Figure 5 shows the interactive speaking situation. In this situation, persons have the opportunity to repeat the question and can request to repeat or clear the statement. So, this situation is more convenient and helpful for persons involved in the discussion process. They can interpret the matter and communicate with ease.

The second situation is partially interactive. Speakers deliver a speech or convey a message to the listeners and audience. It is a live discussion. Here speakers express their views to the audience and the audience does not interrupt the speakers. The speakers have the opportunity to see the listeners and the responses of the audience are judged by the speakers. The speakers can judge them from their facial impression whether they are interpreting the speech. At the end of the speech or talk, the audience can ask questions to clear their doubts. And speakers give answers to the questions through the session of Q/A. whereas, the non-interactive speaking situation is different. No interaction with the audience is involved. It is a recorded type of conversation. Speakers do recordings for an audience as a radio broadcast.

So, all these three speaking situations need speaking skills. And EFL/ESL speakers face problems. To acquire speaking skills is not an easy task for EFL speakers. It is not a simple skill that can be learned within days. It needs time, patience, practice, and well-trained instructors. The environment also plays an important role. They should provide such an environment where they can easily practice speaking during classrooms and outside of the classrooms.

The Advantages of Speaking Skills

No doubt, all skills are important to gain knowledge of the English language but among these skills, speaking skill is given special importance because it is used in communication. Communication is a trait of human society. Human beings cannot survive in the community without interaction. In the EFL context, its importance has been increased many times. Recently, all educational institutions are trying to promote this skill from the school level. It is a regretful situation that after spending several years in educational institutions, EFL learners find themselves helpless in producing the English language properly. Their poor speaking skill creates many problems for them. They cannot find good job opportunities. They cannot communicate with each other. They cannot talk with native speakers and convey their stances. There are several advantages of speaking skills for speakers. They take part in all the activities conducted in the classrooms in form of a group or pair. They can speak on every topic assigned to them. They can make good speeches and take part in discussions. Speaking skill promotes their thinking. It widens their knowledge using interaction with foreigners.

People get the opportunity to make good relationships with international people through the internet. People can expand their business by finding more companies in the global market. It is only possible for them when they can convince others with help of speaking skills. The interviewee can attract the attention of the interviewers with effective speaking skills. It boosts the confidence level of the speakers. Speaking skill provides a lot of benefits to speakers and EFL instructors should

emphasize to develop this skill. For this purpose, they should change their traditional methods and introduce the latest techniques.

How to develop Speaking Skills?

To develop speaking skills in the EFL/ESL classroom, various strategies can be adopted. First of all, all the teachers should leave their old ways of teaching and adopt new ones. They should provide such an environment where students participate in oral activities to improve their speaking skills. Teachers are overburdened and classes are overcrowded. The strength of classes should be minimized so that the burden of teachers can be reduced.

English educators employ numerous techniques to promote the speaking skills of EFL learners. Many students do not speak English due to the fear of mistakes. They should be encouraged to speak without any fear or hesitation. They should be assigned some tasks. The instructors should give them some interesting topics and ask them to express their ideas about these topics within two or three minutes. It will improve their speaking skill as well as creativity. Then the teachers can present such activities as "Speaking about themselves". He can give his/her example to the class. Then he asks the students to come forward and express themselves. He can motivate them to speak. He can ask them that they all are interested in knowing this particular learner.

The teacher should motivate them to come to speak. He/she should not force them. Brainstorming techniques can be used in EFL classrooms. This technique is useful in developing vocabulary and vocabulary is used in sentence making. Newspapers are also effective in learning English. Newspapers reflect the current language of society (Akhter, Kausar, & Faisal, 2020). That is why newspapers are being used as an effective tool to learn English in EFL contexts. Newspapers headlines can be used for this purpose. But one thing should be kept in mind that no strict rules should be made to express their ideas during speaking sessions.

Roleplay activity is also useful. It is the best activity to present for EFL/ESL learners to promote their speaking skills. The role of the teacher is that / divides the learners into groups and make their pairs. Each pair should be given interesting and sometimes informative topics to discuss in front of the whole class. Ten or fifteen minutes can be given to students to discuss and prepare the topic. Then the learners should be asked to come and speak grammatically correct sentences about the topics.

According to Rao (2018), While choosing the topics, the teachers should keep the requirements and interests of the learners. If teachers consider these factors, learners' interests in activities will be increased and learners show good results. Teachers should use the student centered method in place of the teacher-centered method. This method makes the learners active.

Storytelling is an effective technique to promote the speaking skill of EFL/ESL learners. The instructors can use this technique effectively in classrooms. While using this technique, the teachers provide situations, and the learners are asked to keep on telling the story. To continue the story, the learners quickly think of sentences that seem relevant to the situation and add them to complete the story. In this process, they have to think and choose sentences themselves. This thinking and choosing the ability to enhance their speaking skill. After selecting sentences, they are asked to speak these sentences and every learner is bound to add one sentence. They should be encouraged to add grammatically correct sentences. This activity motivates them to produce and add at least one sentence by uttering to complete the story positively. Now, it is up to the teachers how they motivate their learners to produce many sentences. This motivation will enhance their active skill as well as their creative ability.

Conclusion

Of all the four macro English skills, speaking is considered the most important skill needed for communication(Zaremba, 2006). Speaking skill is the ability to express oneself in real-life situations. It can account for acts of situations or phrase words. It shows the sequence of ideas in a fluent way (Boonkit, 2010). It highlights that in teaching EFL Context, teachers should focus on speaking skills and introduce meaningful activities for this purpose. This undertaken research has revealed the importance of speaking skills and explained the advantages of speaking skills. Different activities have been described to promote this skill in EFL classrooms. Speaking skill has become an uphill task for non-native learners of the English language. Without getting competency over this productive skill, they cannot communicate. So, attention should be paid to promote speaking skills in EFL/ESL

classrooms on an emergency basis. It will prepare them to face the challenges in future life. The improvement of speaking skills makes the learners confident.

References

- Akhter, S., Qureshi, A. H., Hassan, M. U., Tanveer, B. (2020). Deconstructing Issues of Identity in the Reluctant Fundamentalist by Mohsin Hamid. *AL-ADWAH'*, 35 (1), 15-29.
- Akhter, S., & Nordin, N. R. M. (2020). An Analysis Of Efl Collocations, A Corpus - Based Study. *International Journal of Management (IJM)*, 11(8), 274-284
- Akhter, S., Anwar, B., & Qureshi, A. H. (2019). The breadth of EFL Vocabulary Building at Secondary Level in Pakistan: A Corpus-based Perspective. *Global Regional Review*, 4(4), 105-112.
- Akhter, S., Kausar, R., & Faisal, M. (2020). TOWARDS THE DESCRIPTION OF NEWSPAPERS IN LEARNING ENGLISH. *International Journal of Management (IJM)*, 11(9).
- Bailey, K., M (2005). Practical English language teaching: speaking.
- Bailey, K. M. (2005). Practical English language teaching: speaking.
- Boonkit, K. (2010). Enhancing the development of speaking skills for non-native speakers of English. *Procedia-Social and Behavioral Sciences*, 2(2), 1305-1309.
- Brown, H. D., & Abeywickrama, P. (2010). *Language assessment: Principles and classroom practices* (Vol. 10): Pearson Education White Plains, NY.
- Bueno, A., D. Madrid and N. McLaren (2006). *TEFL in Secondary Education*. Granada: Editorial Universidad de Granada, 2006. Print.
- Goh, C. C. M. (2007). *Teaching speaking in the language classroom*: SEAMEO Regional Language Centre Singapore.
- Hinkel, E. (2011). *Handbook of research in second language teaching and learning*: Routledge.
- Lucas, S. E. (2001). *The art of public speaking*. (7th Ed.): Singapore: McGraw-Hill.
- Nazara, S. (2011). Students' perception of EFL speaking skill development. *JET (Journal of English Teaching)*, 1(1), 28-43.
- Osborn, S., Osborn, M., & Osborn, R. (2008). *Public speaking guidebook*. Boston: Pearson.: Boston: Pearson.
- Patil, Z. N. (2008). Rethinking the objectives of teaching English in Asia. *Asian EFL Journal* 10(4), 227-240
- Rao. (2018). Developing Speaking Skills in ESL or EFL Settings. *International Journal of English Language, Literature and Translation Studies*, 5(2), 286-293.
- RAO, P., SRINIVAS (2019). The Impact of Using Newspapers on Teaching Language Skills to the Second Language Learners of English. *ELT Vibes: International E-Journal for Research in ELT*, 5(2), 154-170.
- Rao, P. S. (2019). The importance of speaking skills in English classrooms. *Alford Council of International English & Literature Journal (ACIELJ)*, 2(2), 6-18.
- Richards, J. C., & Renandya, W. A. (2002). *Methodology in language teaching: An anthology of current practice*: Cambridge university press.
- Shumin, K. (2002). Factors to consider: Developing adult EFL students' speaking abilities. *Methodology in language teaching: An anthology of current practice*, 12, 204-211.
- Songsiri, M. (2007). *An action research study of promoting students' confidence in speaking English*. Victoria University.
- Tam, M.-K. (1997). *Building Fluency: A Course for Non-Native Speakers of English*. Paper presented at the Forum.
- Xu, D., Akhter, S., & Qureshi, A. H. (2020). Towards the importance of English collocations for L2 Learners, A Corpus-Based study. *Revista Argentina de Clínica Psicológica*, 29(3), 185.
- Zaremba, A. (2006). *Speaking professionally*. Canada: Thompson South-Western.
- Zhang, Y. (2009). *Reading to Speak: Integrating Oral Communication Skills*. Paper presented at the English Teaching Forum.