

Countermeasures of Vocational English Teaching in Higher Vocational Education

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Abstract: Higher vocational English education is very important for higher vocational education. It shoulders the task of cultivating talents who have both professional skills and knowledge and can communicate in English. Based on the problems of English teaching in the process of higher vocational education, this article discusses the ideas and countermeasures for promoting English vocational education in higher vocational schools.

Keywords: Vocational English; English Teaching; Professional

1. Introduction

Economic development and social progress require a large number of high-quality professional skills, and higher vocational colleges are the cradle of training such talents. Judging from the effect of practical education, some courses have not played their due role. This is the case of English courses in vocational colleges. At present, higher vocational colleges still use the undergraduate education model, focusing on theoretical education and paying insufficient attention to practical applications. In the teaching process, the English teaching content is not set according to the professional needs, thus deviating from the language application environment, which obviously lacks understanding of the importance of English vocational teaching.^[1] In response to these problems, teachers should establish a corresponding language education environment in accordance with students' career development plans, based on talent demand goals and market orientation, and colleges and universities should establish corresponding teaching incentive mechanisms to improve the English teaching level of vocational colleges.

2. Analysis of the main problems in English teaching in higher vocational colleges

2.1 The importance of the professionalization of English teaching is still shallow

At present, many colleges and universities do not realize the importance of English professional education, and blindly pursue the learning of professional skills and knowledge, while ignoring the learning of English knowledge. To change this situation, students can learn English to improve their future employability. To carry out various English teaching activities, they should not only stay on the English test, but also carry out the four basic English skills in training. With the deepening of foreign exchanges among all parties in our society, students can further develop their professional abilities if they master a higher level of professional English. The current situation is that many vocational college students have a low level of English and cannot meet their job needs.

2.2 The existing curriculum system is backward and teaching materials are scarce

At present, students in many higher vocational colleges have weak English foundation. Students in vocational colleges and research colleges require different levels of English. The former focuses on the needs of future work.^[2] In fact, higher vocational colleges and ordinary colleges are not fundamentally different in the teaching system and the textbooks used, which makes the students of vocational colleges seem to be more difficult in the process of learning English, and the knowledge learned is difficult to apply to actual life, which makes it impossible to exert their professional abilities well.

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doi: 10.18686/ahe.v4i5.2259

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2.3 Current teaching methods cannot adapt to the professionalization of English teaching

At present, when teaching English in higher vocational colleges, there are still some misunderstandings in the teaching methods and teaching concepts used, so that teachers cannot take reasonable ways to implement English professional education. Teachers usually set their teaching goals so that students can obtain English level certificates. In the teaching process, the traditional education method is also used, which is to let students focus on memorizing words, phrases and key contents of textbooks. This makes it difficult to meet the requirements of English teaching in higher vocational colleges, and it is even more difficult to train qualified English talents who are suitable for the future career development of students.

3. The main paths for the vocational development of English teaching in higher vocational colleges

3.1 Change the traditional teaching concept and raise the degree of professionalism

To reform English education in vocational colleges, we must first recognize the importance of English education in higher vocational colleges, and enhance the importance of college management and teachers on occupational English education. In the process of promoting vocational education, English teachers should deepen their understanding of vocational English education, change the traditional English teaching concept, choose reasonable textbooks and arrange appropriate courses according to actual needs;^[3] Higher vocational schools should reform English teaching concepts according to the needs of social and economic development and the actual needs of enterprises, market-oriented, and promote the reform of English vocational education in light of economic development needs.

3.2 Further clarify the teaching objectives and build diversified teaching modules

The teaching objective is the focus of English teaching, and it plays a programmatic role in the English teaching process. When teaching English, higher vocational colleges must first determine the direction and goal of teaching, and then develop teaching methods based on this goal. Only in this way can we gradually promote the reform of English teaching, so that students can master proper English learning methods and achieve good teaching results. Higher vocational colleges should timely improve the teaching content according to the needs of social and economic development, take the needs of students as the basis and take the development of professionalism as the goal, and gradually establish three basic modules based on English basic knowledge, job search ability and professional ability to meet students' learning needs of career English from multiple angles and comprehensively improve students' career English level.

3.3 Pay attention to basic teaching and cultivate students' English application ability

First of all, we must fully realize the importance of English basic education in the teaching of higher vocational colleges. If we want to strengthen the foundation of professional English education and improve the actual level of professional English education, we need to devote great efforts to basic English education. Due to the large differences in English proficiency of students in higher vocational colleges, teachers should adopt flexible methods for teaching in the teaching process, and cannot use one-size-fits-all methods for teaching, that is, according to the actual situation of each student, make a reasonable teaching plan to promote the reform of vocational English teaching.^[4] Secondly, it is necessary to improve the students' practical ability to use English and improve the professional teaching level of English in the English teaching process. Students can find deficiencies in the process of using English, so as to conduct targeted learning. Therefore, improving students' practical application of English can not only enable students to accumulate experience, but also lay a solid foundation for students to prepare for their future participation in work.

3.4 Strengthen and improve the construction of teaching staff and effectively improve the quality of teaching

Teachers' own quality and teaching level are very important. At present, there are relatively weak English teachers in higher vocational colleges, so it is very important to improve the professional ability of teachers. First of all, the school should pay attention to the construction of teachers. Higher vocational colleges can hire English teachers with certain professional capabilities to enrich the teachers and improve the overall quality of English teachers. Secondly, the school should focus on training new teachers, through training and assessment to improve the ability of English teachers to teach, so that teachers always maintain a continuous upward momentum, enable teachers to develop good habits of continuous innovation, advancing with the times, and improve the overall quality of the English teacher team.

3.5 Improve teaching facilities and create a strong language environment for students to achieve a benign teaching effect

First of all, higher vocational colleges should increase the investment of funds to equip professional English teaching with corresponding teaching equipment and facilities to meet the needs of students in English teaching hardware. In terms of software, teachers should also give full play to the enthusiasm and initiative of teachers. Through innovative teaching models and rich teaching forms, students should be actively involved in the English learning process. Teachers should pay attention to practical application exercises, strengthen students' ability to understand English, and improve English learning effect.

Secondly, teachers should create a strong English learning atmosphere in the students' learning process, and continuously improve students' English learning enthusiasm and language ability, which can play a very good role in improving the effect of professional English learning. The school can set up an English corner according to the actual situation, allowing students to strengthen English ability building through the English corner and improve professional English use ability; at the same time, various forms of English speech competitions and English word competitions can be set up, so that students can fully feel the strong English learning atmosphere and improve students' English proficiency. The school should make full use of modern information conditions to set up a corresponding virtual English learning environment, and set up a suitable working situation according to the majors studied by the students. In this simulated environment, students complete the dialogue in English, and then the teacher gives a scientific, fair and objective evaluation. In this way, English learning can be more closely integrated with the major, enabling students to learn English proactively.

4. Conclusion

Nowadays, under the global environment of economic globalization, the demand for English talents is increasing. This requires higher vocational colleges to continuously strengthen the construction of English education functions, be brave to face various problems that arise in the process of English vocational education, and propose scientific and reasonable solutions. Educators should constantly improve their own qualities, improve their professional English teaching ability, and cultivate more outstanding professionals, so as to promote the comprehensive and healthy development of higher vocational education.

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