

# Reflections on English Education under the Goal of Developing Students' Core Competence

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**Abstract:** In the era of globalization, English education in China undertakes the important task of improving the foreign language ability of the whole people and cultivating a new generation of high-end diplomatic talents. The educational goal of modern English education is not only to teach students knowledge, but also to improve students' core qualities through courses. This study takes the current situation of English education in China as the research object, and explores how to transform English education in the future under the goal of developing students' core literacy by analyzing the core literacy of English education and the hot issue of "weakening English" in the community.

**Keywords:** English Education; Core Literacy; Course

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## 1. Introduction

Foreign language ability is one of the basic qualities that people should have in the era of globalization and an important language tool for human communication. In the era of cultural integration of various countries, all countries need to understand the culture of other countries on the basis of inheriting and carrying forward their own culture. As an important part of subject education, English education should be based on the current situation of education in China, excavate the educational value and cultural value of English subject, and realize the deep integration of English subject education and quality education in China.

## 2. The core quality of English education

In the process of English learning, the way of thinking and deep culture learned will have a certain impact on a person's quality and thinking. The core value of English education is to cultivate a successful communicator, including language and behavior, reflecting a person's character and way of thinking, as well as language skills, values and ability to do things. The core qualities of English discipline include language ability, cultural awareness, thinking quality and learning ability. China's opening up will allow more Chinese people to communicate with people of other countries on different occasions and across time and space. Adding English education to the compulsory education stage can give our country a better chance to improve its core literacy in the era of globalization and informatization, which has profound and long-term significance. Under the background of the new era, English education should adhere to the teaching concept of "building morality and cultivating people", promote the development of students' core literacy in English teaching, and guide teachers to change their educational concepts and means, so as to strengthen the training of core literacy on the basis of consolidating English language skills education.

## 3. Weakening English education may aggravate educational inequity

Educational burden reduction and equity are hot issues in education. Some scholars' research on these issues shows that only by reforming the current talent selection mechanism can we fundamentally change the exam oriented education and educational inequity. Every year at the two sessions, the teaching of English education receives special attention. At the two sessions in 2021, members of the National Committee of the Chinese people's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) and other political parties proposed to further reform the status of English as a compulsory course in the stage of compulsory

education. English and other foreign language disciplines will no longer be set as the same main courses as Chinese and mathematics, and the proportion of quality education courses in school education will be increased; English is no longer required for the college entrance examination; Proposals to prohibit students in compulsory education from taking unofficial examinations. These related topics about "abolishing the status of main course in English primary and secondary schools" have also aroused heated discussion among the masses and education departments. After consulting relevant studies, it is found that English education in China over the past 20 years has exposed hundreds of millions of urban and rural children to English courses, broadened students' horizons, and trained generations of teenagers' language practice ability, learning ability, cross-cultural awareness, etc. Weakening English education in school education means that some students are marginalized. There is a lack of high-quality English education in school education. English education can only be obtained through other means. This is undoubtedly one of the contributing factors of class solidification. Children from wealthy families can get better educational resources, but the English of children from ordinary families will become a "weakness", so they will be at a disadvantage in the future employment competition. The future world is a world of scientific and technological competition. When conducting international academic exchanges, we must lay a good foundation in English in order to improve the national scientific research ability and cultural soft power.

## **4. How to realize the value of discipline education in the era of core literacy**

### **4.1 The value orientation of humanistic education in English curriculum**

The new curriculum standard in 2022 focuses on the core link of "education", highlights the value of education, optimizes education resources, discipline education paths, and constructs an all-round support system for discipline education courses. School education takes "moral education" as an important teaching task, and we should adhere to the value orientation of humanistic education in English education. The new era constantly puts forward new challenges and new needs for English education. It is the trend of the times to improve the quality of talent training and meet the needs of diverse talents. Humanistic education contains two dimensions. The first is that English education is humanistic education in essence, and the humanistic essence of its English discipline cannot be ignored. In English education, we should fully grasp the particularity of English, respect students' learning rules and characteristics, based on the current teaching situation, study and improve teaching methods, in order to enhance students' learning experience and shape their language ability. The second is to guide students to distinguish the similarities and differences between English and Chinese language modes in the process of learning, give students imagination space across regions and time and space, and cultivate students' cultural awareness and world awareness, in order to complete the transition from comprehensive language application ability to English subject core literacy.

### **4.2 Taking the training of compound talents as the training goal**

With China's increasing exchanges with other countries and the advent of the era of globalization, the collision of various ideas, and the increasingly close cooperation and competition between different countries in the world, information technology and artificial intelligence are changing the way human beings live and learn. It is necessary for education to arm the next generation with correct values and world views. English is more urgent to learn English because of its instrumental characteristics. When teaching English language and foreign culture in English courses, students should be guided to treat foreign culture with a rational attitude. Through learning activities such as comparison, identification, judgment, appreciation and reference, students' cross-cultural awareness, love and recognition of Chinese traditional culture should be improved, and their ability to communicate rationally in the cultural context should be improved. From the internal perspective of higher education. There is a trend of integration of disciplines, and the cross integration between disciplines is the general trend. It is an inevitable choice for English education in the new era to cultivate higher quality compound talents from both the social level and the subject research. Education departments should firmly adhere to the connotative development path aimed at improving students' core literacy, further improve and perfect the new compound English talent training system according to the historical experience of English education in China, the existing educational conditions and the situation of domestic teachers, and the principle of people-oriented and innovative.

### 4.3 Deepening curriculum centered English teaching reform

In English education, we should clarify the quality intention and optimize the disciplinary education path from the unit perspective. The national curriculum reform in China has entered the era of three-dimensional goals, which refer to "knowledge and skills", "process and methods", "emotional attitude and values". From the perspective of knowledge and skills, language is not only a symbol system, but also has high cultural value. In classroom teaching, we should grasp the classroom content, add cultural values, and take the goals of the three dimensions as the goal orientation. We should also adhere to the goal orientation principle, and need the innovation of teaching means and methods, apply modern educational information technology, and carry out more heuristic teaching, so as to enhance students' interest and consciousness in English learning, and obtain wisdom and spiritual strength from it. To reconstruct and integrate the existing English curriculum content, we should optimize the English curriculum system, and change the repetitive and disjointed teaching situation. Foreign language learning should be carried out according to the continuous and step-by-step teaching principles, and the connection between different learning stages should be optimized to form a scientific and series of educational activities.

The classroom is the central place of school education, the main channel to put "building morality and cultivating people" into practice, and also the core link to promote students' all-round personality development. Through investigation, it is found that the current English classroom teaching in China has the characteristics of superficial, fragmented and patterned, lacking cultural connotation and thinking participation. To solve this problem, we must rely on the excellent cultural and scientific knowledge carried by the English subject, take the core content of the subject as the carrier, and take the core activities of the subject as the way, to realize it through carefully designing teaching activities. The nature of English curriculum should always emphasize that English is a curriculum integrating language, thinking and culture. Teachers should guide students to learn and use language knowledge and skill strategies around the content of teaching materials, and carry out learning and construction based on cultural knowledge. Teachers should let students understand different cultures, compare cultural transfer, absorb cultural essence, and gradually cultivate students' ability of cross-cultural communication and exchange.

## 5. Conclusion

The construction of a community with a shared future for mankind in the new era has put forward new requirements for the development of English education in China. To promote the development of English education in China, we must follow the internal laws of English education, adhere to the value orientation of humanistic education, and take the training of compound talents as the training goal, in order to deepen the curriculum centered English teaching reform, and actively promote the benign development of English education.

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