

English Education for Chinese Students in Current Situations

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Abstract: As for how to comprehensively improve the English level of Chinese students, I suggest that relevant departments should increase the practical application of English for Chinese students, rather than just theoretical learning. Then increase the opportunities to communicate with native English speakers. More games should be added to the English enlightenment of Chinese children, such as oral English and listening, rather than memorizing words.

Keywords: Practical application of English; Theoretical learning; Oral English; Listening.

1. The background of current Chinese education and its impact on students

Since modern Chinese education system was implemented, families have attached great importance to their children's grades. The intensity and intensity of Chinese students' learning is unmatched by that of students from many other cultures and countries. Students in Shanghai reported an average of 28.2 hours of school time per week, ranking ninth among 65 countries (regions), and an average of 13.8 hours of homework per week^[1]. In spite of the extremely heavy pressure on the shoulders of the Chinese students, parents still regard scores as the only measure of students. China has its own unique education model and system. And beyond all doubts, there are also the best educational thinking for Chinese students. Chinese students are extremely good at learning. Even many books have been published to describe Chinese students learning ability. Chinese students regard improving their academic performance as the most important thing in their life.

2. Regarding to China's policy, the way how can we endeavor to improve the English level of Chinese students under the premise of conforming to China's policy

2.1 China's education policy, and Chinese students in the background of education policy facing serious problems

Taking "foreign as using" many people to develop and improve ourselves is of a learning mindset, open mentality and also an important symbol that the basic education in our country is gradually becoming mature^[2].

In 2021, September, China carried out the "double reduction" policy. It aims to ease schoolwork burden on primary and junior high school students. The policy also calls for reducing homework and after-school courses in off-campus tutoring institutions, improving the quality of education and regulating after-class activities.

Everything happens for a reason, the proposal of the "double reduction" policy has greatly reduced the learning burden of Chinese students to some extent. At the same time, parents, students and teachers are like ants on a hot pot in the face of the severe problems of college entrance examination and school choices. The compulsory subjects in China's college entrance examination are Chinese, mathematics, English, physics, chemistry, history, geography and so on. Science subjects like math and physics, you can improve your scores just by consolidating, practicing, and summarizing. Besides, Chinese is our mother tongue, so we don't need to worry about it. But English is not, and it is a particularly important subject in the life education experience of Chinese students. We don't have that pure English atmosphere, and there are no foreigners around for us to communicate with. As a result, English has become a nightmare for Chinese students, and how to improve English has become a thorny problem.

2.2 Some helpful ways to improve college entrance examination English and college English

My personal opinion is to treat the study of English as the study of mother tongue. We have been living in China since childhood, and all language communication, behavior and habits are linked to China. Growing up with the influence of Chinese, we naturally learn how to use Chinese. So learning English is the same English includes listening, speaking, writing and reading.

In response to the "double reduction" policy, we can't go to remedial English. However, we can remediate ourselves. Listening to English on a daily basis, junior and senior school students listen to the corresponding difficulty of English listening. College students are the same, adjust to meet the normal speed of speaking, and then try to listen, this may be a good way to practice English listening. As for writing, the most significant thing is not vocabulary and grammar, but long-term reading of a large number of English literature accumulation. Magazines like *The Economist*, *The New York Times* and even *China Daily* are all good ones. I believe you have read a great deal of Chinese books, so why not try English books? How to improve oral English is the biggest bottleneck to improve English. We have numerous reasons to believe with the downward shift of focusing on English education, with the gradual implementation of the New English Curriculum, and with encouragement and support from the government. Bilingual courses are becoming more and more popular^[3]. My advice is to read, read as much as possible, because you must know how to sound good. You can not just correct the bad pronunciation but also can practice listening. Above all are my ideas and opinions. I think these are not only responds to the call of the country, but also a good way to improve English.

China's education policy has tried its best to provide consideration for the majority of educators and students. However, any policy needs a traditional period, and students in this transitional period are not fully prepared to adapt to the new learning pace and methods, and often the learning efficiency will be greatly reduced.

English is the most common language in the world. We need to be ready at all times to face the needs of the society and the improvement of our own ability. Learning English well is a necessity in this era.

2.3 Pay attention to the psychological State of students is of crucial importance.

On November 21, 2017, the China student financial aid management center issued a proposal: to protect students' personal information and privacy, and make the financial aid work more compliant, more loving and more warmth. No matter in the qualification review or after determining the target of funding, we should pay attention to students' psychological emotions and conditions, and have a conversation in a way that students are willing to accept^[4].

3. English education in China belongs to the study of both culture and language

3.1 Language is a part of culture

Culture is colorful on account of differences. In the process of various cultural exchanges, due to the differences in cultural background, historical origin and ownership, cultural collision cases are common. In today's globalized and diversified world, countries should take the initiative to learn more about other cultures and be understanding and inclusive in their exchanges so as to better understand each other. Language and culture go hand in hand. Language is actually a part of culture, but culture also depends on language to spread. Culture includes language, which is a special cultural phenomenon and a kind of values, ideological morals, laws and regulations, and aesthetic interests gathered by people's ideology. Language is a kind of spiritual culture formed after the emergence of human beings and with the emergence of culture. Languages and cultures can assist and inspire each other. They are closely related.

3.2 Language is a tool for people to express their feelings to the world

Language is the prerequisite for the formation and development of culture. People preserve and spread their knowledge of the world through language. The development of culture also promotes the continuous development of language. Language reflects the characteristics of a nation. It not only contains its history and culture, but also contains its way of life and way of thinking. People create more and more excellent culture in the continuous social practice, and with the formation and development of culture, language also comes into being. Language is the place of a nation's spirit. Through the language system of a nation, the social style, crowd psychology, moral concept, physical geography, political system and social form of the nation it represents can be seen. Because different races communicate with each other, culture can only penetrate into the society and make continuous progress, and language is the carrier of cultural communication and exchange. Therefore, culture and language are interdependent and influence each other.

3.3 Language and cultural learning should complement each other

As is known to all, Chinese traditional culture is numerous, and each region has its own unique history and culture. As

you can imagine, when English was introduced into the Chinese education system, the collision between the two cultures became more manifest. With the development and progress of the society, the Chinese people are becoming more tolerant of immigrants. Many schools began to introduce teachers from abroad, and even kindergartens began to find foreign teachers to enlighten children with English. This is a very good phenomenon, fully proves that Chinese culture has slowly started to go to the world. At the same time, foreign culture has been integrated with Chinese culture. Thanksgiving, Christmas, these western festivals, have also been integrated into China. It makes China's business and market more international, and also makes people's life more colorful. Therefore, it is also a good way to strengthen cultural exchanges between China and the West.

There is a recent college course called "Chinese Cultural English". The main purpose of this course is to lead students out of the misunderstanding of the difference between Chinese and Western culture, and increase their understanding of Chinese culture, and how to express and display Chinese culture in English. In this class, I benefited a lot. The teacher taught the 24 solar terms and asked the students to make PPT to teach the knowledge about the 24 solar terms in English. I went to university in Yunnan, which is famous for its climate and scenery as well as the various cultures of its ethnic minorities. Such as the old town of Lijiang, Jade Dragon Snow Mountain and Xishuangbanna, all contain strong ethnic customs, which make people fascinated. The expression of these cultures in English highlights the requirement of students' English ability, but also adds a touch of color to the boring English class. To express Chinese culture in English or Western culture in Chinese is a strong call for the study of cross-cultural communication. The course "English for Chinese Culture" is doing very well. It not only conforms to the English education for Chinese students under the current situation, but also broadens the scope of students' knowledge and vision, and lays a solid cultural foundation for them.

Traditional Chinese culture includes opera, calligraphy, traditional Chinese painting and so on. Contains the wisdom of thousands of years of ancient crystallization. Opera, for example, is a typical culture that can be spread to the world. Chinese dialects are also the most complex in the world, such as Hunan dialect, Cantonese, Northeast dialect, Shanghaiese and Tibetan, each containing countless wisdom and historical allusions. On the other hand, English is new to Chinese culture. From so many videos and news, foreigners dressed in Hanfu, playing mah-jongg and using chopsticks just like Chinese. This is the charm of Chinese culture. It's not exclusive, and it's one of the best things about cross-cultural communication. In today's era, how can we successfully introduce foreign culture into China, so that Chinese students can be influenced by Western culture in the process of learning English? This is a question worth thinking about.

3.4 The best way of learning a language is “be there”

I was born in northeast China. It is close to Russia and is heavily influenced by Western culture. Harbin is my hometown. It is known as the “little Paris of the East”. Hagia Sophia, Central Street, are full of Western elements. My primary school was in a Sino-foreign joint venture primary school. There are several English classes every day, and the foreign teachers are from Canada, Australia, the United States, New Zealand, the United Kingdom. Every day they took us to play foreign games and told us stories about their country. Winter in Heilongjiang Province is unusually cold. When it was snowing heavily, foreign teachers would take us to roll in the snow and play. When I went to primary school from the age of seven, because of the training of foreign teachers, I can cope with the basic daily English language, and spoken English is very standard, others can not recognize that we are Chinese. At the time of graduation, each of us has been very skilled in oral English, and can communicate with foreigners normally. As we know, our English scores are far better than those of our peers. So why is this? The reason is very simple, because our education model, is to be there, to be involved. When listening, speaking, reading and writing are in English, the English level will naturally improve rapidly. The experts who have just studied abroad

3.5 Forming habits

In my opinion, in the enlightenment stage of learning a language, the most important thing is not to memorize words and phrases. It's about forming habits and memories as a whole. For example, when we Chinese were young, we did not deliberately memorize Chinese characters to learn Chinese, but unconsciously practiced the language when we communicated and played with our parents and friends. At night hungry out to buy snacks, if you can't talk, it will be starved anyway. If you get lost playing in the street, if you can't ask the way, then you can't even go home. So English learning is the same, as long as you bring your own situation into the role reasonably, reasonable use, training and arrangement. Then it's only a matter of time before you learn English well.

To sum up, reasonable cross-cultural communication is conducive to the improvement of the overall level of a nation. Because the culture of each country and region has its own characteristics. Of course, in addition to the characteristics, there will

be a variety of shortcomings. Therefore, reasonable cross-cultural communication can learn from each other and cultivate and enlighten students with a new way of thinking. At the same time, it can also make students' language thinking become more flexible and more adaptable. Having adapted to the Chinese education model since childhood, we always use emotion rather than reason in language expression. Figures of speech, exaggerations, these are the differences between Chinese and Western expressions. We're good at using allusions. We're good at using examples. Western languages, on the other hand, pay more attention to practical application and prefer simplicity. That's what I want to say about the use of culture and language in English education.

In my point of view, both sides are partly correct. To thoroughly analyze this question, we are supposed to take all relevant aspects into consideration, so as to make the most suitable decision. Therefore, culture and language are also of crucial importance of English education for Chinese students.

4. Conclusion

This paper discusses in detail China's current education policies, the difficulties students face in learning, and how to improve the comprehensive English ability of Chinese students. In order to change the current situation. In other words, to improve the English ability of Chinese students to the best of their ability, we should make a comprehensive summary of the current situation and bring practice into the class, let the laughter into the class as well as let the students unconsciously put themselves completely into the English. It is conceivable that the results will be better than expected.

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