

Speaking Barriers And Recommendations To Overcome Them For The Indian Job Seekers

Dr.K.Gurusamy

Associate Professor, Department of English, Kalasalingam Academy of Research and Education, Krishnankoil.

Email: k.gurusamy@klu.ac.in

Abstract: India though being a developing country, has contributed a lot in the progress and evolution of mankind. It is a universally acknowledged fact that Indian brains have proved to play vital role in almost all the necessary advancements of the contemporary world. Several profound organizations have openly expressed with awe about the mind and skills of the Indian labor. Though the offspring of Indian education have proved worthy, their range of development and visionary skills proved to make a slow progress on par with the colleagues of other nationalities. This again repeats in the local scenario too. A city bred colleague shows considerable progress than the colleague sprout from the common criteria, which constitutes seventy percent of Indian job seekers. On closer look one can find that the lack in expression has cost them a lot, especially the inability to communicate in the Trade Language. This paper focuses on the barriers faced by the job seekers of rural India and they can be worked on to enable their success.

Keywords: Speaking, Indian Job seekers, Shyness, Anxiety

1. INTRODUCTION

The key to success is based on how one expresses themselves under various conditions. Language is an effective tool of communication. To be proficient in any language the learner should have mastery over the basic four skills – LSRW i.e. Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. While the Listening and Reading skills are the receptive or input skills, the Speaking and Writing are productive or output skills. In order to master the input or receptor skills the learners should acquire it by continuous participation via sense organs. Whereas, the learners need a lot of guidance and supervision from the teachers in order to gain mastery over the productive/output skills. The problem in the Indian context is that the learners are given emphasis over the productive skills while learning a second language. This causes the shift and makes them active listeners but passive thinkers. This makes them to have high skills in obeying orders than to have a creative mind of expression. This paper focuses on the barriers and suggestions in overcoming the barriers in utilizing the Speaking skill of communication.

SPEAKING

Speaking is the most exciting skill for students because of the set of features that describe oral treatise. It is defined as the action of conveying information or expressing one's feelings

through the help of language. It is a method of constructing and partaking meaning through the use of verbal and non-verbal symbols, in a variety of contexts and needs more practice. Being proficient in a language means the ability to communicate verbally, freely and effectively. According to David Nunan [1] in his *Practical English Language Teaching*, the speaker has to learn how to:

- Articulate English speech sounds and sound patterns
- Arrange their thoughts in meaningful and logical sequences
- Employ the sentences and word patterns correctly
- Select the words and sentences accordingly
- Use the language confidently and fluently

BARRIERS IN SPEAKING

Normally, to speak means to produce some words representing one's ideas. Students find speaking English as a stressful activity, as they have to perform something using English. The factors that hinder the students from speaking English are as follows shyness, fear of committing mistakes, lack of confidence in expressing ideas, anxiety and nervousness considering the perception of others.

SHYNESS

Shyness acts as a hurdle to speak. It is an emotional factor because of which many students suffer a lot to speak in English. Speaking in English in front of others is a common phobia that students encounter. By nature, shyness makes them very quiet. It makes their mind blank and they forget what they want to speak. They are also afraid of being laughed at by others, and they make mistakes due to their inability in speaking correct English. Students' shyness is their perception on their own ability. Paying attention on this aspect is quite important.

When shyness is an emotional factor, fear of committing mistakes in pronunciation and in grammar is a psychological factor. Fear of committing mistakes becomes one of the main factors of students' reluctance to speak in English. Students commonly stop speaking when they fear of being laughed at or criticized by others. The students are concerned of looking silly while speaking in front of others. While speaking English, making mistakes has been a common issue.

Apart from shyness and fear of making mistakes, there exists lack of confidence in expressing ideas. When they feel that they could not make others understand their speech there exist the lack of confidence. In such kind of situations, they keep silent which reveal their self-consciousness. The students who lack confidence in themselves while communicating in English suffer from communication apprehension. Communication apprehension is an unpleasant feeling that something undesirable may happen due to the poor communication. Of all, low ability in speaking English is due to lack of confidence.

In addition to shyness, fear, and lack of confidence, anxiety is one of the blocking factors for speaking English effectively. It affects students and reduces their speaking performance. It minimizes the oral production of speech. It makes the students less fluent than they really are. For example, test anxiety deals with the students' fear of being tested. It is fear of negative evaluation. The evaluation by teachers and, of course, by other students causes anxiety among students themselves. Fear of being evaluated is a factor affecting students' anxiety. Their low ability causes anxiety among the peer group.

Shyness is also called hesitancy; it is the feeling of uneasiness, lack of comfort, or clumsiness especially when a person is around other people. This mainly happens in the new circumstances or with the people who are not familiar. It can be a typical of people who have low self-respect. Some specific reasons for Shyness are,

- Introduction to a new skill.
- Expressing in a new situation.
- Bounded by people know and appreciate.

In order to overcome shyness, the following should be built within the learners by exposing them to such atmosphere. They are,

- Building self-confidence
- Getting used to new circumstances
- Making eye contact and Smile
- Speaking clearly with good posture
- Laugh genuinely often amusing
- Don't look pensive
- Listing the situations that feel anxious and doing follow up.
- Introducing to a new person or circumstances regularly
- Adding acquaintances
- Securing personal elements while in a group

It is essential to have courage enough to speak logically without fear. Practically all the people are shy to some level. One can improve his confidence in speaking only by practicing conversational skills regularly with various groups of people and discussing new topics.

The best solution for overcoming shyness while speaking is to provide lot of time to speak slowly with the people who are closely associated with us. Shyness is not a permanent personality or a singular attribute; it is just an emotion which can be worked upon with will power. Everybody has the power to modify their state of mind of shyness through their desire and follow up activities.

LACKING CONFIDENCE

According to a research, feeling nervous in front of people is a problem faced by majority of people. People are more anxious of speaking to people and dealing with people than any other phobia. The only reason for this fright is their lack of confidence, which is also a common criterion that can be worked upon. In order to gain confidence the following can be exercised.

Establishing original self.

- Personal Grooming.
- Dressing Sense based on the events.
- Gaining Intellectual contents.
- Knowing when and where to use.
- Using formal language.
- Subjecting to both direct and indirect criticism and encouragement on regular basis.

ANXIETY

According to Horwitz [2] et al. Anxiety can be defined as the personal feeling of tension, apprehension, nervousness, and worry associated with an arousal of the autonomic nervous system. The fear of speaking in public is called as communication apprehension. It's a frightened sensation related with bodily sensations that are all too painful for a being facing a group. The multifaceted self-perceptions, principles, state of mind, and manners relating to the usage of a foreign or second language for communication results in one having anxiety while communicating through it. There are various reasons for anxiety, the roots for anxiety in speaking are,

- Lack of preparation.
- Excessive preparation on the topic within the time limit.
- Worrying about the audience exaggeratedly.
- Distress about not attracting the interest of the audience.
- Plan to imitate other speakers rather than being themselves.
- Displeasure in being the center of attraction and also less self-confidence.

According to Kim [3], there are various strategies which can be used in managing with second language anxiety. The first strategy is to identify the feelings of our own second language anxiety. It is very important to find our own mental state and know the bases of our anxiety. Some people become nervous when they are going to speak or present it doesn't mean they will perform poor. Nervousness sometimes will help in improving the strength and interest to the situation.

The second strategy is to share our feelings of anxiety with others. Even the professional artists and experienced speakers might have some sort of anxiety when they are facing the audience in public. It is understood that a slight feeling of anxiety is common since it is experienced by many. Speakers should keep in mind that nobody is conscious of their fright unless there is an outward signs of nervousness. They must concentrate on their message to reach the audience and do not worry about the mistakes committed. Mistakes are the best way for learning if we commit lot of mistakes lot of things we can learn.

The higher educational institutions like Universities and colleges should implement the advanced methods to reduce the speaking anxiety and increase the students 'competencies to overcome the problem. The teachers should give an opportunity and encourage the students to express themselves in the target language and support them in reducing their anxiety and also the teachers can give some relaxation techniques being adopted by the Psychologist to reduce their anxiety.

FEAR OF COMMITTING MISTAKES

Fear of speaking in a target language is a common criterion. It's a form of recital anxiety in which a person becomes very disturbed that he or she will look anxious visibly and sometimes have a panic attack while speaking. The primary reason is that they feel afraid of looking foolish in front of other people. The best way to overcome this fear is to have a complete preparation and a positive attitude towards the listeners.

Even before starting to speak, some people got nervous and their heart starts beating faster and their mouth gets dry and some may even get queasy making the person to have hesitation to speak or start speaking rapidly. What the audience will think? Is the reason most people get anxious when required to speak to a group. Constant thinking about being shamed can abolish a person's self-image and confidence. In order to reduce this fear,

- Prepare well before the start of the speech.
- Rehearse well how to put forth the ideas.
- Avoid negative impact thinking about the listeners/audience.
- Feel free before and after the speech.

Recommendations to improve Spoken English

Speaking English is one of the challenging tasks for most of the learners of any language, especially for those who are not well armed with the vocabulary and grammar. But, these problems can be cleared with a little bit of effort and participation in using in the right context.

Tips improving Spoken English for a mediocre

- The first step is to realize that learning English language is not a duty rather it can be taken as a pleasure.
- One of the most important aspects for enlightening the spoken English is to know extensive vocabulary for expressing our thoughts confidently and fluently. Having a good stock of vocabulary would help the learners to be more exact with the construction of words and sentences and eloquent in their speech.
- The second aspect is to have basic grammar knowledge for improving spoken English.
- With the knowledge in grammar and vocabulary the learner has to read any one of the leading English newspapers in order to strengthen the acquired knowledge. It is not necessary to read every page and all the articles, rather to read the articles which are very much interested for them.
- Take sensible effort to use the words which you learnt in the day today conversation.
- Forming a Peer group and learning through experience will be fruitful.
- Read at least one English book a month. By practicing this the vocabulary, phrases, colloquialisms etc. will increase sharply. Also, reading develop the thinking abilities of an individual.
- Indulging in the English speaking atmosphere helps one acquire the language with ease. Watching English broadcasts enables one to accomplish this.
- Watching English movies will help one to acquire the supra segmental genre of the language.

Tips for improving spoken English for a beginner

- Make your mind and believe, it is never too late.
- Don't worry about the mistakes committed.
- Be persistent. It isn't a one day process.
- Identify certain phrases that can be used in multiple situations and use it whenever it is required.
- Know how to greet somebody properly.
- Don't haste through the sentences. Talk leisurely and carefully
- Restrict with simple sentences until you get confidence.
- Check your pronunciation with online tools.
- Observe the language and pronunciation of the famous speakers and try to frame sentences like them.

- Arrange a friend, relatives or anyone to point out your mistakes and correct them.
- Record your readings every day and check the pronunciation, speed, clarity and emphasis.
- Utilize the opportunity to voice chat with another user. This is an effective way to practice.
- Learn at least five new words daily and use it in your conversation with the people.
- Read aloud at least one article of your choice every day.

2. CONCLUSION

The fast moving World we live in only provides means to the survival of the fittest. In order to survive today one needs to communicate effectively. Having mastery over the trade language helps one to accomplish their desired task with ease. To increase the level of efficiency in the English language, one has to practice a lot. Practice will make perfect. It is determined that English language anxiety is multi-dimensional and it disturbs the students. The future job seekers should also have in them the creative soft skills-set along with the technical knowledge. Both are interdependent on each other. Thus it is a necessity to converse effectively in English for the welfare and growth of an individual, thereby the nation.

3. REFERENCES

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