

# Strengthen Practical English Teaching to Improve College Students' Comprehensive English Ability

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## Abstract:

English as a language discipline attaches great importance to the comprehensive ability of students to listen, speak, read and write, of which practical English is one of the compulsory courses for college students, and it is the main direction of today's social development, looking at the current situation of English teaching in China's colleges and universities, there is still a lot of room for development in practical teaching, and theory, teaching methods and professional skills need to be further expanded. In this regard, this paper starts from the comprehensive demand of society for English teaching for college students, focuses on discussing the demand for practical English talents in today's society, and proposes corresponding optimization strategies on this basis.

## Keywords:

Practical English Teaching, Comprehensive English Proficiency for College Students, Curriculum

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## 1. Introduction

In today's social development process, college students as the reserve force of Chinese society have a certain growth in terms of ideology and professional skills, as an excellent college student with certain English reading ability, translation ability, dictation ability and expression ability is a necessary condition for its integration into society. As the main way for college students to improve their comprehensive ability and quality of English, there is a certain room for progress in the course structure, curriculum objectives, curriculum system, theoretical knowledge and teaching mode in the teaching process due to subjective and objective reasons. In particular, the demand for practical English talents in today's social development will continue to expand, and this article mainly explores the development path of improving college students' comprehensive English ability.

## 2. The Current State of English Teaching for College Students

### 2.1. The Structure of the English Theory Course Needs to be Improved

At present, in the process of setting up the university English theory course, the organizational structure of its course has not changed substantially compared with the curriculum system ten years ago, mainly divided into writing classes, reading classes, listening classes and speaking classes, this more traditional curriculum system setting has been unable to meet the needs of students' English development, it is difficult to promote the advancement of English teaching, especially in the theoretical construction, a more obvious problem is that there is more than enough but their own original courses, Did not develop a localized English curriculum according to the overall learning situation of students, the improvement of the curriculum system plays a role in the outline, in the future of English teaching, how to start from the demand for English talents in today's society, the curriculum system and training goals combined with the current situation of Chinese English talent training continue to improve; at the same time, it is also necessary to improve the basic from the perspective of the curriculum supporting system, including the improvement of the practical ability of English talents, at present, many English students only pay attention to written learning in the learning process. English reading, listening and grammar problems are trained, but they lack sufficient experience in oral communication to speak fluent English confidently, and practical English needs to be strengthened. [1]

### ***2.2. The Degree of Innovation of the English Talent Training Model for College Students Needs to be Improved***

Nowadays, the public's demand for college English talents is increasing, the innovation of the talent training model should also reach a new height, from professional to direct employment for college English students is a major change, in this transformation process colleges and universities should actively interact with society and employers, the effect and appeal it produces are still insufficient, so in the daily college English talent training work, should be around the relevant innovation issues to carry out democratic discussions, Use all the forces that can be mobilized; theory guides practice, practice improves theory, under the guidance of scientific theory, university English teaching will have greater room for development, if there are defects in college English teaching at the theoretical level, then the actual teaching of English must be insufficient. [2]

### ***2.3. The Degree of Innovation of the English Talent Training Model for College Students Needs to be Improved***

The theory of English teaching for college students needs to be improved:

At the theoretical level of English teaching for college students, at present, China's English theory teaching is mainly based on the new version of college English, of which the teaching materials are mainly comprehensive tutorials, listening teaching is based on audio-visual speaking and reading, in fact, the difficulty of the English textbooks used needs to be improved, and the level of English teaching in various regions is uneven, for example, the first- and second-tier cities in advanced education areas are more difficult than the university English teaching, such as the level of the Jiangsu English college entrance examination is even higher than the university English textbook A level, and teachers in order to take care of English education in the relatively backward areas of students will appropriately reduce the difficulty of teaching, mainly to explain the words, book content, so there is a relative lag in the level of English theory teaching, some daily college students' English teaching

guidance methods, teaching forms and actual English talent training requirements are far from the difference; and many college students need to pass the English level four and six exams, the English course will not be targeted level 4 or 6 English teaching training, the difficulty of English teaching materials and level 4 difficulty is not far behind, but many English students need to pass the English major level 4, professional level 8, graduate School English or even IELTS, these difficulties are much higher than the daily English teaching, and the passage of these professional examinations requires college students to study by themselves. Therefore, English teaching theory is currently unable to support the needs of college students for various English tests.

In short, in the process of university English teaching, whether it is the setting and curriculum arrangement of the English curriculum system, or the shortcomings in the training mode and theoretical teaching of English talents, it is the development direction of the innovation of the teaching and talent training mode of the university English course in the future. [3]

### **3. Social Development Requires College Students to Use English**

#### ***3.1. Clarify the objectives of English teaching and improve the curriculum system***

University English teaching in the professional course arrangement and teaching must develop a clear course objectives and curriculum plan, and closely around the course objectives of continuous efforts to achieve, this is the university English teaching task orientation, and with the continuous development of society, whether it is traveling, communicating with people, reading literature or homework writing, these need to have a solid English ability, course objectives will vary due to professional segmentation.

#### ***3.2. The Demand for Practical English Talents Has Increased***

Under the increasingly perfect market background of the talent market, simply cultivating a bunch of high-scoring English-scoring talents cannot be agreed with the inherent needs of national construction and social development. From a professional point of view, the development of society needs practical English talents, which requires colleges and universities to have practical goals in the cultivation of English talents, so colleges and universities should pay attention to the improvement of Practical English skills in the opening of English classrooms.

#### ***3.3. Improvement of English Professional Skills***

Under the influence of college entrance examination education, many college students in English learning mostly focus on how to obtain high scores in English, and ignore the cultivation of professional skills, and colleges and universities as institutions of higher learning mainly cultivate professional talents, from the high school of language, materialization and the cultivation of comprehensive talents in politics and history slowly transformed into specific to a professional professional talent, especially the English major can be specifically refined into English major, business English, tourism English, English education and applied English among them, the English major requires students to have a solid English language and a very wide range of scientific and cultural knowledge, while business English is the comprehensive application ability of using English for business negotiations, business trade and business management English education is more solid in the English of the theoretical knowledge and teaching methods, other professional college students its

English teaching division is not very specific, aimed at cultivating the comprehensive Ability of College Students' English, so the university's English training direction, especially the English major must meet the requirements of the social diversification direction of change, only in this way can cultivate English talents with outstanding achievements in different fields, so colleges and universities must pay attention to the balance of professionalism and compound in the process of English talent cultivation. Depending on the nature of the profession, the cultivation of a certain aspect of ability is highlighted. [4]

### ***3.4. The Scope and Perspective of English Subjects are Constantly Broadening***

In the international context of economic globalization, political multipolarization and cultural diversity, the scope and perspective of English subjects taught by universities will be more in-depth and extensive. In the content arrangement of college English courses, it is not only necessary to include the explanation and promotion of traditional Chinese culture, but also to introduce international current affairs and politics, especially the Background of British and American cultures for content expansion, and can also explain professional knowledge and skills in a certain field, even popular buzzwords and events on the Internet, so that college students can not only improve their English reading and comprehension ability in the learning process, but also expand the rich horizons of extracurricular knowledge, integrate national cultures, folk customs, and other ethnic cultures around the world. Religious beliefs and spiritual civilization with values have made Chinese university English teaching full of international vision.

## **4. Developmental Advice to Strengthen Practical English Teaching**

### ***4.1. Enrich and Innovate the Teaching Mode of English Courses for College Students***

At present, in the teaching of English courses for college students, it is not only necessary to ensure that students have the corresponding level of knowledge and skills to be taught, but also to be proficient in teaching materials and able to learn from each other, and their teaching models need to constantly keep pace with the times. In the whole teaching process, English teachers should be based on the overall English level of the students in the class to be taught at different levels, from all over the world college students have a certain gap in their English foundation, comprehension ability, receptivity and expression ability, for which teachers should meet the demands of most college students' English learning, combined with the new era to continuously strive for excellence at the level of teaching mode. In addition to daily teaching, teachers can also guide students to watch relevant teaching videos to improve students' listening, language sense and perception of the connotation of English professional courses for the practical application scenarios of some college students' English courses, and can also assign role-playing tasks, so that students can play the characters in English dramas for dialogue and submit homework in the form of video recording; they can also use learning skills and wisdom trees As well as online learning apps such as MOOCs, they assist college students in learning outside the English classroom, and use the platform to upload homework to correct and feedback in time, so that college students can receive their own homework correction and correction in the first time, thereby improving the overall efficiency of English teaching.

In terms of educational means, college students as an active mind, willing to accept new things of the group, its receptivity and comprehension ability is strong, if English teachers consistently use the traditional written teaching methods of junior high and high schools, it is bound not to arouse the majority of college students' learning interest, in the absence of high school control, many college students are playing with their mobile phones or sleeping in a daze, reducing the quality of English teaching, it is not conducive to the improvement of the comprehensive English ability of the majority of students; in this regard, English teachers not only want Based on the learning of the majority of students to stimulate the learning interest and desire of college students, to enliven the classroom atmosphere, but also need to innovate teaching methods, such as allowing students to conduct group teaching discussions, group simulation dialogue, group English micro-film shooting and English film dubbing, etc., which can allow students to learn English in the case of "play", this novel English teaching method will not only unite the strength of the group, let the students cultivate team awareness in cooperation, but also let every student in the class participate in it. Instead of raising your hand to answer questions and participate in the course as in the past, improve the sense of participation of each college student in a clever way, create a good learning atmosphere, and the teaching effect will be greatly improved. [5]

#### ***4.2. Strengthen the Degree of Innovation in English Theory***

In the public on the continuous improvement of college students' English, the novelty and originality of English teaching has also risen to a new height, on the one hand, in terms of ideological concepts, it is necessary to enhance the level of innovation awareness of college students' English teachers under modern theory in a vital position to continuously strengthen, while establishing a university English teaching level combined with the development characteristics of colleges and universities to continuously develop school-based teaching materials, improve the allocation of professional resources, and develop localization teaching materials suitable for college students' English learning. On the other hand, in the daily Management of English teaching, the flexible management of students is carried out in a rigid and flexible management mode, giving full play to the creativity of all faculty and staff, promoting the development of innovative theories, and raising them to the strategic height of English disciplines, but it is not possible to ignore the shortcomings in the development of University English majors in order to pursue innovation, and the English research team must undergo comprehensive, rigorous and scientific analysis, as well as repeated practice, in order to truly innovate A professional textbook belonging to the university. [6]

#### ***4.3. Transform the Traditional Method of Performance Evaluation***

The purpose of practical English teaching is that students can master scientific and systematic theoretical knowledge and practical professional skills in English courses, such as the most basic is to expand students' English vocabulary, deepen students' understanding of grammar, strengthen students' writing and expression ability, and improve students' sense of language and expression ability, which is undoubtedly listening, speaking, reading and writing, which are the basic English literacy that a college student must have. At present, the performance evaluation method of English in China's colleges and universities is nothing more than daily attendance, classroom performance and mid-term and final exam results calculated according to a certain

proportion, and the most important thing is the English final exam, which generally accounts for 40% to 50%, which shows that colleges and universities still take students' written test scores as the main evaluation indicators, and do not pay much attention to the specific learning of students in the classroom. In this regard, English teachers can appropriately adjust the proportion of each indicator of the score, the student's classroom performance as an important assessment standard, encourage more people to actively speak in the English classroom, and then is the weighted value of the student's various test scores, the most mid-term and final exam scores are reading comprehension, can appropriately increase the score of listening and writing, and oral expression is also included in the assessment scope, from many aspects to assess the comprehensive quality of students' English. Establish a personal learning file bag to allow students to see their own four years of college growth and English learning records, forming a qualitative evaluation. [7]

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## **5. Conclusions**

With the continuous improvement of English proficiency requirements in today's society, English as an important skill for college students to find jobs, travel and work, the height of their comprehensive English ability also directly affects the personal ability and cultural level of college students, which plays a vital role in the future development of college students. Both students and teachers should be aware of the important role of practical English teaching. Colleges and universities and English teachers need to teach in layers according to the students' English foundation and overall learning on the one hand, and on the other hand, they also need to enrich and innovate teaching methods, formulate a reasonable and scientific curriculum system and curriculum plan according to the talent training goals, appropriately add practical English teaching related content, improve students' English use ability, expand from "written English teaching" to "English application in life", and achieve the improvement of comprehensive English ability.

## **Conflicts of Interest**

The author declares that there is no conflict of interest regarding the publication of this article.

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