

Problems Faced Iraqi College Students in Learning English Language

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ABSTRACT

The aim of this research is to find out problems encountered by students who learn English as a foreign language and how they cope with the problems. The role of English around the world as the most widely used language has shown its charm for students who wish to continue their education in higher level. In many countries jobs require English as a basic skill and it becomes the main language to be used in society at large for example, business, politics, education and the media and in certain field such as medicine, banking, tourism, diplomacy and the language of computing and in order to compete and survive in the world of work globally, graduate university needs to require and master English as their basic competency. However, eagerness to master English is not simple since learning a new language which is totally different with the first language is not an easy task to do. Indeed, it is a long and complex process which needs patient throughout the learning process. It is due to the fact that a learner needs to pay attention to every single aspect of the new language such as grammar and culture.

INTRODUCTION

Learning to be fluent in English, especially when your first language is in no way similar to it, can be very challenging. As a new learner, you are bound to face many problems in learning English as a second language. Even native speakers often end up making mistakes because of the differences and intricacies that can be found within the language. So, if you think that problems faced by students in learning English are exclusive to them only, you are wrong. However, there are a few solutions to deal with the problems faced by students in speaking English. One of the most effective ways to deal with such problems is by hiring an English Tutor Online. If you do not have the time to commit to an online schedule with a tutor, you can try our suggestions to overcome Arabic speakers learning English problems. In reality, many language students are only motivated to learn English at the beginning but become confused and unmotivated during the process of their study due to some reasons such as:

1) inside school factors involving students and teacher such as low achievement throughout the

process of learning, the feeling of being unable to achieve the learning target and students' efforts that have not been maximal, difficult material, teaching methods and techniques.

2) outside school factors such as the influence of family and friends, and learning activities outside the school time.

THE IMPORTANCE OF MOTIVATION:

Motivation plays an important role in order to master English as a foreign language. The chance for students to be successful or failed depends on the level of their motivation to get involved in any activities. In other words, students are referred to be successful if they are highly motivated, while, students' failure is caused by low motivated or worst, demotivated.

Some problems that related with learning English:

1. Poor English Vocabulary

Vocabulary is one of the integral parts of learning any language, including English. Any language,

including both Arabic and English, has hundreds and thousands of words and it is impossible to know all of them at a given time. Even native speakers do not know all the words of their mother tongue.

How to Improve English Vocabulary?

You can start with some simple methods and games to learn and play, respectively, to work on your vocabulary. As making a list or flashcards of twenty-five words that you want to learn and keep reading it. Do not forget to write down the meanings of those words along with them so you can remember how to use a certain word in a certain situation

2. Confusing Spelling

There are hundreds and thousands of words in English that have completely different spellings but sound the same when pronounced. You can have a 'pair' of shoes or eat a 'pear' for lunch. These words sound the same but have vastly different meanings and spellings.

You can improve these problems by reading books and watching movies and noticing how some letters have different spellings and pronunciations.

No Interaction With Native Speakers

It is important to regularly interact with native English speakers if you want to be fluent in English. It can be very difficult to work on your speaking skills without a partner and can cause many problems in learning English there is a solution for all Arabic speakers learning English problems, including this one. You can find native speakers via Facebook groups and communicate with them.

3. Difficult Grammar

English grammar is tricky. Learners can find grammatical patterns difficult, especially in speaking and it can lead to a wrong message being delivered. English grammar rules are not clean-cut and there are way too many of them. As a result, they are tough to memorize, and even tougher to apply. You can work on grammar by starting with the basics.

4. Feeling Embarrassed

Learning a new language can feel overwhelming, so the embarrassment that comes with it is natural. So, if you feel embarrassed when practicing around

people, especially when the people around you are fluent, remember that it is natural. You feel out of place because you are unable to express yourself properly.

To deal with the embarrassment, practice as much as you can. Try speaking in English alone or in a comfortable space where you can speak out loud.

5. Pronunciation

English does not follow the rules of phonetics because it is not a phonetic language. So, oftentimes you do not say a word the way it is spelled. For instance, in "I am going to read a novel today," and "I read an interesting novel yesterday," the word 'read' is spelled with the same letters but both words are pronounced differently

How to Improve Pronunciation?

Try watching movies in English because that is one of the easiest ways to deal with the problems faced by students in speaking English. You can also try reading novels. But read them out loud.

6. Spoken English Can Sound Too Fast And Difficult To Decipher

Even students who are doing well in their English courses tend to be taken aback when they find themselves in a conversation with native English speakers. The native speakers just seem to be talking too fast. The best way to solve this problem is through familiarity. Talk to English speakers as often, listen to English-language audio books, watch English-language movies and TV shows without dubs or subtitles, and so on. This will gradually build up your understanding and make spoken English easier to follow.

7. English Reads And Speaks Differently

Spoken English sounds very different from written English. This can be a problem for non-native English speakers. The only real way to overcome this issue is by speaking the language as much as possible. This can be done by spending time around native or near-native English speakers, playing online video games that emphasize teamwork and communication, or using online and offline software that's designed to teach you to speak in small sentences.

Tips what you shouldn't do and should do to face problems:**Don't**

1. Don't start directly with newspapers, novels, English news etc. , where you could find only a complex language.

Spoken classes are really a bad idea to start with where you waste your money and time.

2. Don't start with learning grammar or vocabularies.

Do

1. Hear a lot as much as possible. your hearing sense will trigger you to speak the language automatically even with the same accent you hear.

2. Start with English animated movies where English vocabulary is somewhat simple and accent is easy to go with compared to live action movies.

3. Watch web series that are specially designed for learning English.

4. Watch English you tube videos which you are really fond of. (For instance : makeup videos, vlogs, cooking videos, TED talks, speeches, little stories etc.) So you will automatically spend more time in hearing English with lots of fun and not be bored.

5. Try writing your own little stories in English where you will find your own talents as well

Tips

- While watching movies or videos just hear the dialogues with your eyes closed and repeat the same in your mind and try to picture the scene. (Because while your eyes are watching something you will be definitely distracted from hearing it properly).

- Learn phrases instead of learning vocabularies. phrases helps you to frame sentences quick and makes you speak the language in a short period of time.

- Write down some phrases and often try to incorporate them in your daily conversations.

- If you want to use subtitles in videos please make your subtitle setting as to display it a bit later after the dialogue has been spoken. (Because this gives you

some space to first hear it out and then cross check with subtitle whether what you have heard is perfectly right or wrong).

CONCLUSION

The best way to overcome all the problems in learning English is to practice as much as you can while fully immersing yourself in an environment that is full of like-minded English speakers. Even though there are many Arabic speakers learning English problems, there are some things that make learning easier. For instance, in English, nouns do not have a gender. You only need to learn three basic tenses. These aspects simplify a lot of things.

Keep in mind that you will not learn English fluently overnight. I'm The most important thing is not to give up, no matter what. Learning English can be the most entertaining and exciting experience of your life if you overcome the problems in learning English

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