Research on the influencing factors and improvement path of English teaching quality in colleges and universities

Jin Wang, Yinglu Zhu

Wuhan University of Bioengineering, Wuhan, Hubei, 430415, China

Keywords: New Liberal Arts; College English; Teaching Quality; Diversified Teaching

Abstract: At the present stage, the process of education reform in China's colleges and universities is accelerating, and new standards and requirements have been put forward for English teaching in the context of new liberal arts. In this teaching environment, teaching activities should be carried out with a certain degree of comprehensiveness, to help students consolidate professional knowledge at the same time, create a good classroom atmosphere, cultivate students' independent inquiry ability, effectively improve the applicability of English teaching, and strengthen the core competitiveness of students. In this regard, this paper analyses the factors affecting the quality of English teaching in colleges and universities and the path of improvement, so as to promote the overall improvement of students' English language skills and comprehensive application ability.

1. Introduction

In recent years, under the influence of economic globalisation, the frequent interactions in the international economic field have further enhanced the importance of English. In order to cultivate excellent English talents, colleges and universities should conduct in-depth analyses of the impact on teaching quality caused by teachers, students, learning objectives and teaching goals, and gradually improve the English teaching system. By perfecting the education guarantee mechanism and building a diversified teaching mode, the teaching effect is strengthened. To enhance the comprehensive ability of students and promote the development of high-quality English teaching in colleges and universities, it is necessary to optimize the classroom assessment mechanism. This optimization should be based on the development needs of the times in order to ensure the relevance of educational assessment.

2. Influencing factors of English teaching quality in colleges and universities under the background of new liberal arts

2.1 Teacher teaching

At present, the deepening of education reform, the major universities in the active response to the national policy of the background, gradually expanding the scale of enrolment, the teacher's workload is more onerous, the ratio of teachers to students is slightly out of proportion. The overall

size of the class is large, and it is difficult to organise various activities. During the teaching process, English teachers are difficult to mobilise the classroom atmosphere, and lack of strength in grasping the progress of classroom teaching and the order of the class. In this environment, there is a certain degree of variability in students' learning bases, which is not conducive to the development of teaching activities. The lack of learning ability of some students will lead to their gradual development of anorexia, which will further increase the difficulties of teachers in the process of teaching activities. In addition, the increase in the teaching task, English teachers for the research aspects of the lack of effort, to a certain extent, reduce the input time, reduce the enthusiasm of teaching [1].

2.2 Students' Learning

Learning as a long-lasting, boring activities, for the student group, cannot continue to maintain the enthusiasm for learning, by their own learning concepts and habits, lack of self-restraint. In the learning of new knowledge, encountering difficult knowledge will often produce abandonment psychology, reduce learning enthusiasm. At the same time, under the influence of traditional concepts, some students believe that English learning is of low utility and lacks applicability in real life, and it is simply used to cope with exams, which is a serious lack of motivation to learn. In addition, at the present stage of English teaching, the emphasis on improving students' reading ability leads to some students' low oral expression ability, in this context, the practical utility of English learning is not really brought into play, reducing students' desire to communicate. Learning motivation, as the basis for students to carry out learning activities efficiently, is affected by many aspects, and teachers should formulate targeted teaching programmes according to students' differences [2].

2.3 Learning Purpose

Ignoring the mastery of English listening, speaking, reading, writing, and other practical skills, some English teachers focus solely on English test scores during the process of English learning. This approach has resulted in students prioritizing their English scores and lacking awareness of the usefulness of English in their future lives within society. Due to the school's requirements, most students employ a rote learning strategy, focusing on solving numerous exercises to enhance their English test-taking abilities. However, this singular approach to learning confines their understanding of English to the contents of textbooks and prevents them from recognizing its practical use in real-life situations and the community. After entering the workplace, they gradually find that the knowledge they have learnt is difficult to meet the needs of their work. Based on the development goals of the new liberal arts, the assessment strategy should be formulated to meet the needs of talent cultivation, optimise the teaching method, and focus on cultivating students' English communication ability, so that they can strengthen their mastery of English and narrow the distance with the social needs.

2.4 Educational Factors

English teaching activities in colleges and universities should be carried out with the main goal of cultivating students' oral expression ability and browsing ability, so as to ensure that they can make good use of their knowledge of English and successfully realise their communication in English after entering the society. However, at the present stage of English teaching, it is just purely based on teaching performance as the judgement target of English teaching, which changes the English teaching system and reduces the teaching requirements and students' learning initiative.

From the students' point of view, it is only passive to receive knowledge, which in the long run will cause English learning to be carried out in a patterned and formal way. In addition, the teaching materials as the basis of teaching activities, in the development of the content of the teaching materials, should be strengthened in its service to the activities of the teaching materials, to the effective transformation of the quality of teaching as a benchmark, to strengthen the teaching effect, and to guide the smooth progress of English teaching.

3. Measures to improve the quality of English teaching in colleges and universities under the background of new liberal arts

3.1 Improve the education guarantee mechanism and build a diversified teaching mode

In order to effectively improve the effectiveness of English teaching, the education guarantee mechanism should be actively improved, a diversified teaching mode should be constructed, the ladder structure of the teaching layout should be adopted, and the level of the design of the English education structure should be enhanced. At this stage, students' learning ability and their own characteristics should be taken into account, classified in accordance with the grade system, combined with the learning difficulties of English teaching, strict control of the teaching rhythm, and increase the learning advantages of the students' English courses. For the phenomenon of some students' performance decline, teachers should actively create a relatively relaxed environment, reduce the learning pressure, adjust the learning level as appropriate, while the learning performance has increased students, should be implemented to assess and analyse, and accurately determine whether it is able to successfully enter the next gradient of the learning team [3].

English teachers, as the transmitter of teaching knowledge, should pay attention to the innovation of their own educational methods to ensure that the quality and effectiveness of teaching can meet the expected standards. In order to improve English education, it is important for teachers to clarify their own educational responsibilities and tasks, optimize the educational model, improve the level of individual education, and exercise students' English communication skills based on their own knowledge framework. For instance, in a lesson on "Writing Three Thank-You Letters," the teacher assigned after-school homework with the theme of "grateful heart." The teacher also announced that in the next lesson, students would translate the ancient stories of "The Peach for the Plum" and "The Lamb Kneeling at the Breast" into English, and then present them to the class in the form of a speech. This example demonstrates how the teacher focuses on daily oral communication expression of students, employs a life-oriented teaching method, creates a conducive learning environment, helps students understand the connection between English knowledge and real life, and ultimately enhances their English communication ability.

3.2 Constructing a problem feedback system, organically integrating with MOOC mode

Under the background of new liberal arts, a problem feedback system should be constructed to promote the quality of teaching work to a higher level. In the process of deepening the teaching problem feedback mechanism, it can effectively deepen the relationship between students and teachers, help them establish a common language, so as to deeply understand the problems in teaching and avoid blindness in teaching. Teachers can take into account the actual situation of students, reasonably adjust the teaching content, adopt the combination of online and offline, and establish an interest-oriented learning classroom. Promote the English activity course teaching programme with reference to the students' interest activities. This way, students can fully integrate into the English learning environment and use their own interest thinking to strengthen the level of English practice. It will also help improve the English course teaching system.

MOOC mode, as an emerging teaching concept, can help teachers use Internet information technology to realise distance teaching within a certain range. It can not only analyse the teaching situation in real time, but also build a blended teaching mode to achieve large-scale open teaching. For example, in the study of the unit of Heroes of our time, the teacher, in the form of catechism, will play the unit of Wu Juping, Guo Mingyi and other contemporary heroes, and at the end of the playback, in the form of voting within the app, let the students choose the expression of the heroes of their own minds. And the supportive representatives of each option were chosen to speak, and in the exchange of interaction, the main idea of the article was comprehended. In the above case, the teacher adheres to the principle of interactive teaching, so that the students implement interaction on the information terminal and platform, mobilise the enthusiasm for learning, and increase the advancement as well as the fun of the English classroom [4].

3.3 Enhance teachers' professionalism and strengthen the construction of teachers' teaching team

Under the background of national education reform, colleges and universities should clarify their own target orientation, implement English teaching improvement measures in depth, improve teachers' professionalism, and enhance the professionalism of the course content by constructing a team of teachers whose professionalism and comprehensive quality fly together. In this regard, the recruitment of teachers should be improved, and the selection system should be perfected by examining teachers' academic qualifications and professional abilities. At the same time, the theoretical education of English teachers should be strengthened, and relevant English professors should be actively employed to hold symposiums, carry out efficient and high-quality guidance work, and implement in-depth exchanges in the context of improving teaching ability and enriching teaching concepts and methods. By utilizing a fair reward and punishment system and encouraging teachers to take personal initiative in their teaching approach, we can enhance their knowledge base and overall teaching proficiency. Under the perspective of new liberal arts, the construction level of teachers should be strengthened, and as an important way to achieve the goal of educating people, the comprehensive educational quality of teachers should be strengthened through the construction of curriculum ideological education system. Teachers should promote students' self-development and cultivate good moral qualities through teaching by example in the light of quality education, political and ideological education, and labour education and other educational concepts of the new era. Colleges and universities should strengthen the flexibility of educational planning in accordance with the needs of talent cultivation, to avoid the adverse effects of excessive restrictions on the development of English teaching activities. Efficient teaching is developed through subtle penetration of teaching concepts and constant enrichment of teachers' teaching experience by expanding their knowledge reserve. This process lays a solid foundation.

3.4 Optimise the classroom assessment mechanism and increase the management of classroom learning

In order to achieve the efficient development of English teaching in the context of new liberal arts, teachers should clarify the needs of course assessment and optimise and adjust the course assessment strategy. In terms of assessment content, they should strengthen the understanding and investigation of students' learning characteristics, carry out teaching assessment practice in a planned and targeted way, and in this process, pay attention to objectivity and comprehensiveness. For students with poor adaptive ability, should focus on slowing down the pace of assessment, so that they can maximise their potential ability to stimulate. The assessment programme can be adjusted when the adaptive ability is continuously enhanced. Combined with the requirements of

the new liberal arts, attention should be paid to the cultivation of students' comprehensive English quality, avoiding excessive focus on a single aspect of ability.

As a breakthrough for teachers to understand students' learning situation, the English assessment can help teachers to explore the respective learning advantages of different students, discover their own flashpoints, and strengthen students' self-confidence in learning English by combining targeted teaching methods. To increase the effectiveness of English classroom learning management, a thorough analysis of students' learning status, expectations, and confusion about English learning should be conducted. Additionally, the principle of student-oriented teaching should be strictly adhered to. By carefully observing students' emotional changes, their progress can be evaluated in a timely manner. It is also important to actively create an efficient learning environment, promote effective English teaching methods, and optimize the overall learning effect. Good classroom order can ensure the smooth and orderly development of English teaching activities, teachers should implement the organic integration of English knowledge, so that in the process of thinking, to enhance the flexibility of understanding and use of English knowledge.

3.5 Enhance students' comprehensive ability and cultivate excellent English learning habits

As the recipients of knowledge, students can indirectly reflect the quality of English teaching in colleges and universities, and should pay attention to cultivating the comprehensive ability of students, so that they can strengthen their correct knowledge of the significance of English skills learning, and strengthen the application ability. In classroom teaching, a harmonious classroom environment should be created so that students can actively and enthusiastically speak, and develop excellent English listening and speaking learning habits, so that they can take their place in the individual market competition. For theoretical learning, students should abide by the corresponding system of norms, actively cooperate with the English teacher's educational methods and concepts, to fulfil the educational activities, in order to lay a solid foundation of English for the subsequent employment in the community.

Good study habits can realise the sustainability of English teaching. By strengthening the learning and accumulation of knowledge, students can improve their understanding and mastery of knowledge, and turn what they have learnt into a part of their own ability. In classroom teaching, key knowledge should be recorded and coloured, and reviewed in class to achieve the goal of checking for deficiencies. In order to strengthen the standard of oral expression in English, the pronunciation of words should be strictly controlled and specialised oral training should be implemented. Compared with the traditional English classroom, the practice channels should be expanded and the scope of practice should be enlarged, and the training of English listening and speaking skills should be strengthened by practicing English songs and reading classic literature, so as to enrich the knowledge base and improve the ability of flexible application.

4. Conclusion

In conclusion, under the perspective of new liberal arts, in order to meet the demand for talents in the process of economic development and to achieve the goal of increasing the quality and efficiency of English teaching, colleges and universities should keep abreast of the times, follow the development of the times, and actively innovate the methods of English teaching and update and improve the teaching mode. To improve the level of individual education, it is important to start by taking students' learning demands into consideration. One way to achieve this is by constructing a problem feedback system and integrating it with the MOOC mode. Additionally, it is necessary to enhance students' comprehensive ability by optimizing the classroom assessment mechanism and increasing classroom learning management. This can be done by adopting the classroom learning mode of creative thinking. These steps will promote the progress of teaching quality and deepen the reform of English teaching in colleges and universities. Ultimately, the goal is to create an efficient classroom.

Acknowledgements

Exploration and Research on the Reform of Ideological and Political Education in Our University's College English Curriculum, Project Number: 2021J35

References

[1] Zhang Hui. The Drive of Information Technology to Improve the Quality of English Teaching in Colleges and Universities--A Review of Research on English Teaching in Colleges and Universities in the Context of Information Technology[J]. China Grease, 2023, 48(09):157.

[2] Liang Shaoru. A study of classroom discourse on the improvement of English teaching quality in colleges and universities [J]. University, 2023(11):34-37.

[3] Cao Qiuyang. Research on Improving the Quality of English Teaching in Private Colleges and Universities Based on New Media [J]. Modern English, 2020(22):8-10.

[4] Wen Yan. Influencing Factors and Enhancing Ways of English Teaching Quality in Colleges and Universities Based on MOOC [J]. Journal of Chengdu University of Traditional Chinese Medicine (Education Science Edition), 2020, 22(01): 58-60.