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DEVELOPING THE LINGUISTIC COMPETENCE OF HIGHER EDUCATION STUDENTS THROUGH CREATIVE WRITING

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Annotation

This article reports on pedagogies that promote language, content and literacy in English by stimulating learners' creativity. The starting point to promote creativity among learners was music and art. There seems to be a natural connection between music, language and thinking which suggests that incorporating musical experiences into daily instruction results in creative thinking.

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Achieving a high level of development of linguistic competence is manifested in the ease with which a person can use direct lexical resources in direct and indirect communication, adequate use of phraseological expressions, proverbs, words specific to the speech of native speakers. For a creative writer to be creative and stand spaced out from others, three things have to be given utmost importance; imaginative skill, subjectivity and flair for writing. With these three skills, a creative writer can make a mark and emerge successful. Take the case of J.K. Rowling who is the creator of the much loved Harry Potter series. From young to old, her fan base surprised many and the books were such a huge hit that they were made into movies too. Harry potter series exactly comprise three things: Imaginative skill, Subjectivity and flair for writing. They were made in equal proportion and thus the writing stood famous with time. Readers who love fantasy and have a girth for understanding the vocabulary moved so close with the novel that made J.K. Rowling the most renowned author of all ages. Thus a creative writer can make a transformation into life individually while also allowing readers to improve their learning capabilities. Language learning can be made enjoyable with little enthusiasm on the part of the learner. This enthusiasm would deepen once the learner shifts his focus to creative articles that are seen in plenty in books, articles, magazines, newspapers etc. The source of a creative article would have anyway originated from a convergent thinking and the creative writer would have adopted divergent means to make his writing more enjoyable adding more of puns and creative intelligence. Through creative elements fused into a work, vocabulary learning becomes much easier. Instead of learning any particular word in vacuum, it would be enjoyable if it is fused in an article or a poem such that the meaning becomes clearer and can help the learner to acclimatize it in regular usage. From Fashion to architecture, from hand-held devices to gardening, from management to education, from computer games to interior design, everyone seems to believe that creativity is 'a good thing.

Creative writing is splashed in story books which become wonderful sources for language learning. Grimms Fairy Tales were such beautiful tales of creativity that anyone reading it will have

unforgettable memories with characters etched in mind forever. Each story deals with different kinds of characters and the story lines are completely different from one another. The tales can be narrated to children either in the classroom or at home and a number of questions regarding the tales can be posed to the children who can answer them only eagerly. Though there is no logic in the tales it can be read for its high imaginative thinking and wonderful etching of characters. Values can be taught through reading the tales such as respect for fellow beings, controlling anger, showering love and affection and so on. Creative Writing and its uses By the use of creative writing, the following things are accomplished:

1. Creative writing helps in various levels of language learning like grammar, vocabulary, phonetics and discourse.
2. It promotes “Language Play” i.e. it motivates learners to play with language in their own creative style.
3. Through language play, learners can be unmindful of the risks and just explore, experiment and manipulate language.
4. Creative writing stimulates the right and left brain to think beyond what is merely possible and can promote a balanced thinking.
5. By experimenting with texts of various kinds and the creative style used in it, they come closer to imaginative skills and can also intuitively learn how to adopt it in their language usage.
6. Expository writing can be improved on a large scale through creative writing; to make self-choice and creating expressive pieces at free will.

Creative writing as Maley puts it, is “aesthetically motivated...It is a personal activity, involving feeling” (p.2). He further emphasizes that creative writing significant quality is the way it can evoke sensations. Based on this nature of creative writing, I believe that writing needs to start from personal writing. What I meant by personal writing here is to write about or using their own past and present experiences, wonderings, questions, emotions and opinions. It is hoped that learners are able to firstly learn to voice their opinion through personal writing. It is for this reason that I proposed the creative writing to be integrated in the syllabus of the institution’s curriculum. For adults who need to develop language skills the best way is to develop it through writing creatively of any sort. Every human being would have the basic instinct of language that is learned and developed either at school or home. With the help of those instinct skills and with the knowledge of what they see around and experiences that they have gained, the basic language skills can be developed that grows into masterpieces of writing. It can be initiated with a simple poem or a short piece of writing and slowly developed into something ingenious that is much appreciated. The great playwright Shakespeare as everyone knows became a well-known figure of literature mainly through his creative pieces. Most of the characters that he created are still talked about and that marks his success as a great playwright of all ages. The short pieces of writings that a person creates can be shared via social media either in whatsapp or facebook with close circle of friends or relatives for genuine feedback. The innumerable likes or comments that are gotten for a piece of writing are likely to showcase in all future works and help in betterment and also aid in the development of language skills. Thus creative writing is a blessing for mankind and there are innumerable examples to show how language abilities have developed for people just through their imaginative skill and curiosity for writing. As can be witnessed in social media nowadays, people are at liberty to share their creative pieces and with good encouragement they grow to develop and sharpen their language abilities. They also tend to learn many things associated with language through videos or article snippets which helps them greatly in their ability to learn language and develop a love for it. Thus creative writing in many forms and shape greatly aid in the acquisition of language skills. It is with the creator to make the paramount use of resources available around him to greater ability such that it helps in the longer run and aids in his overall development.

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