



## TEACHING SPEAKING SKILLS THROUGH TASK-BASED APPROACH IN EFL CLASSROOMS

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### Abstract

Nowadays, learning English language is becoming easier and easier, though speaking is still remaining as one of the most challenging skills to acquire. While most students do not have proper knowledge of the necessary skills to improve speaking, some just lack some psychological things to have.

The main aim of this article is to find the most effective solution to this problem and show why this solution could actually be an effective one. I personally and profoundly believe that task-based approach what makes the learning process easier and better. All the reasons of this view will be provided on this paper.

**Keywords:** instructions, misconceptions, learner-centered, task-based approach, speaking skills, mastery of speaking, practice techniques;

### Абстрактные

В настоящее время изучение английского языка становится все проще и проще, хотя разговорная речь по-прежнему остается одним из самых сложных навыков для приобретения. В то время как большинство студентов не имеют надлежащих знаний о необходимых навыках для улучшения разговорной речи, некоторым просто не хватает некоторых психологических аспектов.

Основная цель этой статьи — найти наиболее эффективное решение этой проблемы и показать, почему это решение действительно может быть эффективным. Я лично и глубоко верю, что подход, основанный на задачах, делает процесс обучения проще и лучше. Все причины такой точки зрения будут представлены в этой статье.

**Ключевые слова:** инструкции, заблуждения, личностно-ориентированный, задачный подход, навыки говорения, мастерство говорения, практические приемы;

### Introduction

Speaking is the most widely known skill that most students suffer with and do not desire to speak about. The ways of improving speaking are often a good topic for heated debate. Yet speaking is one of the necessary skills that every English language learner should master. There are a number of reasons



behind it. Firstly, people have a great tendency to judge others according to their communication skills rather than other skills. Also, human interaction is number one thing that all humans highly appreciate. Thus, developing speaking for better future is something essential for every language learner. Next, why most students fail at speaking can be due to different pedagogical and psychological reasons. Counting psychological skills, fear, not having the courage to speak, shyness, lack of analytical thinking abilities are the ones, in my opinion. Lacking knowledge, not knowing how to organize plan, and use of vocabulary, pronunciation, fluency, accuracy and grammar are the main pedagogical problem areas. According to Brown, D (2001) stated that "Accuracy is the ability to produce correct sentences using correct grammar and vocabulary in natural interaction." ( Brown, D, 2001); So, it is a natural case, why many students find speaking very challenging. Because students do not know appropriate approach in speaking which I'm going to describe today.

## Materials and Methods

Well, to solve these problems, a number of approaches were offered by many researchers in recent years. But, from my point of view, I am willing to describe the approach I believe to work best. Hence, speaking is a productive skill, students need to have ideas of what being asked. Although writing is also productive skill, writing and speaking differ a lot from each other. There are four major criteria that make speaking stand out among other skills. To master it, one actually should master fluency, pronunciation, critical thinking approaches.

"Furthermore, good speaking is characterized by some factors of the most prominent one is fluency, but many students are hesitant and often make long pauses when they are speaking. These situations lead them to „social phobia”, which is the fear that they will act in a humiliating way and that other people will judge them negatively" (Cheong, K., et al, 2015).

To make it happen, I believe that Task-based approach is the best way. "Task-Based Language Teaching (TBLT) or Task Based Learning refers to teaching foreign language that seeks to engage learners in interactionally authentic language use by having them perform a series of tasks. This method had characteristic learners-centered and the task served as the means for achieving natural use of language." (Ellis, 2003); Through practice students acquire and develop the necessary skills. Most importantly, one of the biggest advantage sides of task-based learning is it being learner-centered. Students get all the attention and feel themselves as the main characters. Through this more independent approach, students get the chance to really develop and grow their speaking abilities. Indeed, the more they speak the same thing over and over and do a lot of task-related exercises, they will master at what they are doing and excel at speaking.

## Discussion

So, to improve speaking, task-based approach works best in EFL. Let's take a look at the most effective examples of TBL:

- **"Discussions;**
- **Role Play;**



- **Simulations;**
- **Information Gap;**
- **Brainstorming;**
- **Storytelling;**
- **Interviews;**
- **Story Completion” (Hayriye Kayi, 2006);**

As you see, these are examples of basic activities students can do. As well, they stand out, because they promote not only the ways to improve speaking, but also the skills one should master to have good speaking and the ways to boost students mental and psychological state while speaking. For example, one of the simple one is discussion. When learner discuss with each other, they simply share their perspectives and get new ideas and inspirations from each other on a live talk.

Additionally, here, teacher rarely talks and can barely play a role of coordinator, not even a teacher to correct their mistakes. Because here in this talk, learners have their peers to correct them and carry on the talk, so they do not get distracted by the teacher. As this, other examples are also of great power and one can really find them helpful, if they put them on practice. Though, it is really worth mentioning that not all of these activities in teaching EFL suit to all the learners at the same degree. Even though they do fit and help the learners, anyway, it is essential to not forget individualistic approaches while setting goals on improving speaking as well.

## Conclusion

In conclusion, the most effective though method is task-based one to promote speaking skills. Because, in the learning process, students feel themselves really free and overcome both intellectual and mental barriers they have and faced before. I believe that through this method, millions of students can spare their time and work on their speaking skills with great motivation to forge ahead.

## References

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