#### IMPORTANT WAYS TO IMPROVE PRONUNCIATION

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**Abstract:** in this article the significance of teaching pronunciation is highlighted and some efficient methods of teaching pronunciation are analysed with relevant examples and clarification.

**Key words:** dictionary, sound, instructor, visual aids, importance, pair-work activity, tongue-twister, transcription, drilling activity, homophone

**Introduction:** Teaching pronunciation is one of the difficult processes among non-native culture. According to many experiments, there are several methods for instructors. However, it does not mean that all of them are always helpful for learners.

# Some common ways are:

- Teaching pronunciation by tongue twister
- Using dictionary correctly
- Organizing pair-work activity in class
- Paying attention to the role of listening
- Learning homophones
- Using visual aids
- Using drilling activities

Tongue twister is a sequence of words or sounds, typically of an alliterative kind, that are difficult to pronounce quickly and correctly.( oxford dictionary). Improving students' pronunciation through tongue twister helps also to memorize word's meaning, synonym or similar version of words. Such as, "Babbling bumping band of baboons" as well as "Can you can a can as a canner can can a can". In these tongue twisters, it is clear to comprehend that there are very similar words in a sentence to pronounce. In addition, it requires practicing again and again. With the help of it,

learners are able to differentiate word stress. As a result, they begin to pronounce fluently.

In the modern life, it easy to find transcription of any word through technological tool. For instance, dictionaries are one of the most common ways to search pronunciation of word. There are different types of dictionaries, like bilingual, monolingual, encyclopedic dictionary. They are different according to their task and users. The reason why, monolingual dictionary is collection of definition in only one language and it means that it is difficult to use for learners who are on elementary level. Bilingual dictionary is translation of word in another language. If it comes to encyclopedic dictionary, it is full of information about any word related to history. In teaching pronunciation, bilingual and monolingual dictionaries are more beneficial to find how to pronounce a word. It is important to mention that transcriptions are showed in bracket in these dictionaries.

Learning new theme by communicating, interactive activities (student to teacher / student to student) is one of the experienced methods and teaching pronunciation is not accepted. If teacher use students talk to teach pronunciation, it will be good job by analyzing partner's speech. It is clear that finding mistake and learning some new pronunciations can be easy while listening someone's speech. In addition, it leads to many positive experiments. With the help of these kinds of dialogues, students may have new ideas, new vocabularies, way of pronounce correctly, how to speak fluently as well as importance of emotion to express own opinion. According to Counihan, one way to improve students conversational tactics is using natural speech, turn-taking, questioning and expanding on students. (Counihal,1998)

Furthermore, listening audios carefully plays a vital role to improve pronunciation in English language. Stories can help for second language learners to improve their skill. Listening to record version of stories leads to understand the speech of narrative, comprehending meaning of the text and listening them repeatedly is a key to improve pronunciation. (Yates,2001)

There is a thought in the science that listening comprehension and pronunciation are connected to each other. If learners comprehend words, it means they can pronounce them easily. (Gilbert, 2008)

Based on the topic, games are essential in improving students' enthusiast and it makes easy to learn how to pronounce correctly. "Homophones" is really great theme for the improvement. Homophone is a word that sounds the same as another but is different in spelling, meaning or origin. For example, "write", "right" (Longman dictionary).

By organizing games, instructor can explain the topic "Homophone" and achieve purpose on pronunciation. Such as, "Fly killer" activity is a good example for it. To do this activity, teacher should write many homophones on the blackboard and

two of students come to the in front of the blackboard with their killer (notebook). When teacher says a word, they should beat the word quickly. Participant who can beat the word quickly and correct get a point. At the end of the game, there will be a winner. With the help of this activity, students will be able to differentiate words according to their pronunciation.

On the other hand, visual aids are also plays an important role in teaching pronunciation. Visual aids is an item of illustrative matter, such as a film, slide or model, designed to supplement written or spoken information so that it can be understood more easily.(Oxford language dictionary) It is commonly used in improvement of integrated skills. If it comes to help for pronunciation, it makes easy to memorize key point of presentation. Engaging eyes and ears improves students' both understanding and retention. Furthermore, through watching films, learners may know how to speak in a foreign language even they do not understand the plot of the movie. However, using effectively from these kinds of technics is very important to achieve success in education. To prepare a good slide or video presentation, maker should pay attention to be clear, easy to understand. Utilizing main idea and setting a clear purpose for that usage of visual aids is very important.

In addition to this, there is an activity which is called "Drilling activity". Is is the best way to teach words for especially children. It is an activity that associated with listening to a model by instructor and repeating the words after the teacher. It is beneficial to find real version of pronunciation by repeating two more times. Besides that students can keep words in their mind through saying and chorally.(As Kelly,2001) The teacher's main role while the activity is providing phrase or structure for student's to copy. It is a technique that is used in the classroom for many years in order to improve oral language.

### **CONCLUSION**

Pronunciation is a way to express word or sound in speech. This is one of the most crucial factors that influence our speaking. Unless pronuncing the words and sounds in a correct way, we can't be understood by the listener. Speaking fluently gives an opportunity to understand meaning of a sentence and for that reason every second language learners should use different methods to improve their pronunciation. In our modern life, reaching correct pronunciation is not a serious problem to solve. There are variety of techniques and instructors to work together. In addition to this, students are able to use some methods that are mentioned above.

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