

THE ROLE OF CARTOONS IN VOCABULARY TEACHING AND LEARNING

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Education revolves around the process of learning and teaching. Learners find difficulty in learning English. Understanding the nature of the learners and society in which the activity of the education is taking place is the first requisite of a teaching learning program. Motivation plays a crucial role among learners, which helps in learning a language energetically and it also kindles the learners' interest. A teacher, who can keep his learners well motivated, has won half the battle. Learners outside class hours are thought of as being out of education, unless they are doing homework, but watching cartoons may demand that we reassess the relationship between learning and playing. Learners respond to voices, music and to moving pictures. Learners who learn informally through the cartoons seem likely to be high achievers. Cartoons can be used at any time during the teaching and training as long as they are relevant to the point or purpose. This specific purpose can be supportive to start a lesson, to keep the learners occupied, alert, and live up the class and to wake them up after a lunch break. Cartoons can be used as a useful source of improving the learning atmosphere. Cartoons are a wonderful and versatile medium in enhancing teaching and training. Visually, the impact of cartoons is immediate and people from all walks of life, irrespective of age or background, are able to respond immediately in the same way to the educational point that is being made. Cartoons can attract the attention and interest and it motivates the learners to learn. We often hear learners complaining about boring classes and activities. Using cartoons would certainly break the monotony of reading text after text in the educational institutions. Very often a picture speaks louder than words and has more impact than just reading the text. It is also believed that the usage of cartoons can reduce boredom and decrease academic stress, anxiety and unruly behavior. We might have to incorporate some of these interests within our training environments. Nowadays, learning is often seen as a serious and stressful activity. A good laugh, either in pictorial or verbal form promotes a positive learning and healthy environment. Thus, we often insert cartoons for this purpose especially in lengthy training session. Other benefits include the enhanced relationship between teacher and learners as cartoons can create a light and playful mood and learners are basically prone to learn new ideas from their sources of entertainment rather than formal instruction. Watching cartoons helps learners to improve their pronunciation, vocabulary and their speaking ability. Learners will be engaged in the dialogues of the significant scenes in the cartoons. They imitate the characters and speak fluently as the characters do. Teachers, more than ever before, need to listen to the learners and observe their behavior from the point of thought and language development. The teachers may be surprised to discover how much of the language, creativity and thinking ability of the learners are developed and they could observe the spontaneous responses of learners after watching cartoons [3, 122]. Cartoons are very important for the learners, because it improves the learner's imagination, attention, thinking and memorization in all the mind process. Learners find difficulty in language learning, though there are many ways to improve the English language skills. The learners feel bored and they lose interest in learning English, as it is the second language. Teachers are in search of a proper guiding tool to improve the speaking and writing skills of the learners. This research helps to give a solution to such problems by helping the learners enhance their speaking and writing skills through cartoons. When a medium that is more interesting and entertaining is used in the process of language learning, the learners will be more motivated and interested in the acquisition of the language skills. Cartoons are the better medium of communication and, therefore, it deserves to be studied. Surprisingly, compared to the popularity enjoyed by the art and the artists and also compared to the importance of the art, there has been little work done in the art of cartooning.

There is language involved in cartoons, a different kind of language. This makes it a matter of interest to study cartoons. Cartoon has always been considered an effective medium for several reasons. The language used is usually simple for the learners or the children to understand. Humor is an art of communication and is very useful to communicate something that is not so pleasant. Language learning and language teaching take place unconsciously. Cartoons help this process to take place. It creates a realistic target language world for the learner that assures learner-involvement. Since the learner is exposed to a realistic use of language, he becomes a participant of the target language world. This unconscious involvement of the learner in the language interaction process helps him acquire the language. Language is learnt mostly outside the classroom, i.e., in natural circumstances where language is used for communication. This objective can also be realized by television. This medium is readily accepted by learners, since they recognize it as being a part of their life outside classroom. Once the learner knows how to comprehend the language spoken on cartoons in an interactive classroom situation, they can improve and incorporate these skills and techniques into their regular cartoon viewing which gradually will result in their acquisition of the language. Learners get an exposure to the culture where the language is spoken (through video recordings, commercials) along with the language. Literacy holistically involved the ability to use language for communication and interaction with other people. Communication skills can be improved and enriched through many ways. The researcher had found one of the best and interesting ways to enrich learners speaking and writing skills through cartoons. Cartoons make the class lively and energetic. Activities can help learners to get rid of the fear to interact with their friends in English.

The List Of Used Literature

1. Cook Vivian. *Second Language Learning and Language Teaching*. London:
2. Hachette U.K. Company, 2008. Print. 335P.
3. Crystal David. *English as a Global Language*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1997. Print.402P.
4. Hewings Martin. *Pronunciation Practice Activities*. New York: Cambridge UP, 2004. Print.138P.