

IMPROVING STUDENTS' PRONUNCIATION BY USING TONGUE TWISTERS TECHNIQUE

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ABSTRACT

This article aims to investigate how tongue twisters can enhance students' pronunciation skill and its importance in impacting positively to loose learners hesitation. Since, most language learners have challenges to speak clearly and to use correct intonation. So this study offer a feasible solution by using tongue twisters in order to improve the ability to use word stress, the ability in using correct intonation and to decrease their pauses in language acquisition.

Keywords: tongue twisters, pronunciation skills, articulation, fluency, repeating, speed of speech.

INTRODUCTION

In pronunciation, there are some effective ways to improve students ability to speak and pronounce clearly. So, tongue twisters are important in English pronunciation because they help improve and develop the muscles in the tongue and mouth, which are essential for clear and accurate pronunciation. . Additionally, tongue twisters can also help individuals identify and correct specific pronunciation errors, such as consonant blends or vowel sounds. Overall, tongue twisters are a fun and effective way to enhance English pronunciation skills.

METHODOLOGY

•How to learn tongue twisters? To learn the tongue twisters, the first thing that you need to do is to start reading the sentence slowly. You must pronounce the beginning and end of each word strongly. After that, you will have to start saying them faster and faster, but you will have to continue the words as clearly as possible. You should try watching yourself in a mirror, too. If you make a mistake, start all over again. Now that you know how useful they are. All that you need to do is to start practising them.

•**What are the benefits of tongue twisters?** Tongue twisters have been proven to clarify the pronunciation of words. Tongue twisters also stretch and strengthen the muscles which you use to speak. Tongue Twisters show you what words and sounds you have trouble with pronouncing. Tongue twisters warm up your speaking ability. You will find that performers and public speakers often speak tongue twisters before they go out on stage. After reading that you may be wondering who are the individuals who created the tongue twister. Well we don't really know. Below are some of my favorite tongue twisters. Types of Tongue Twisters. There are two types of tongue twisters and these are:

✓**Homograph**

These have the same spelling but might sound similar or a little different depending on other variables. For example, the word, "Tear" is a verb which means to rip something apart and the word "tear" also means the droplets that have been discharged from the eyes of someone who is in pain.

✓**Homophones**

These sound almost identical there might be differences in spelling or the usage of the words. "There," "Their" and "They're". All these sound almost identical when pronounced but "their" is a possessive pronoun that indicates something that belongs to some unidentified group, on the other hand, "there" means indicating a place that is unspecified and "They're" is made out of "they" which is the third person plural pronoun and "are" is the regular auxiliary verb that goes after "they", when joined together.

How to introduce tongue twisters to learners?

To introduce the tongue twisters to your kids, you should follow the steps mentioned below:

✓You will first have to tell the child to start reciting the tongue twisters at a slow pace. They have to continue doing this till they can recite all the sentences.

✓The next step is to know the tongue twister by heart. This will stimulate their memory.

✓The child should repeat the tongue twister as quickly as possible till the time they master it and can recite it three times in a row without making any mistakes.

✓When the child has mastered one tongue twister, they can start again with another.

Here are some of the tongue twisters that are favourites among children:

✓**Easy level**

Sheep should sleep in a shed. She sees cheese.

Red lorry, yellow lorry. The blue bluebird blinks.

Four fine fresh fish for you. Zebras zig and zebras zag.
He threw three balls. Cooks cook cupcakes quickly.

✓Middle level:

I saw a saw that could see out any other saw I ever saw.
Chester cheetah chewed a chunk of cheap cheddar cheese.

Nine nice night nurses nursing nicely A skunk sat on a stump and thunk the stump stunk, but the stump thunk the skunk stunk

✓Difficult level

•How much wood would a woodchuck chuck if a woodchuck could chuck wood? He would chuck, he would, as much as he could, and chuck as much wood as a woodchuck would if a woodchuck could chuck wood.

• Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers. Did Peter Piper pick a peck of pickled peppers? If Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers, where's the peck of pickled peppers Peter Piper picked?

Why do learners face problems when pronouncing tongue twisters?

Tongue twisters trick the brain. This is because it is a very difficult process for the brain cells to tackle such similar-sounding sounds in the same rhyme one after the other. This is because it needs time to comprehend and the brain even more time to process confusing information. On the other hand, a tongue twister needs to be said very quickly and without making any mistakes or stops at the time of the pronunciation.

CONCLUSION

To sum up, English is one of the toughest languages to deal with and therefore, and therefore, it is quite difficult for English learners. But when these homographs and homophones are used multiple times within the same sentence or they are used one after another, anybody is bound to make mistakes and brains tend to get tricked. Hence, teaching tongue twisters in English lessons can be a lighthearted and effective way to help students improve their pronunciation, fluency, and overall confidence in speaking the language.

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