

College of Education for Humanities

English Department



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Methods of Teaching

“Techniques for Implementing Innovative Approaches”

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1. Introduction

Embracing innovative approaches in ELT transforms language learning into a dynamic, student-centered experience. By integrating modern tools and teaching techniques, educators can create an interactive and effective learning environment that prepares students for real-world communication. As technology continues to evolve, teachers should stay updated with new methods to enhance their instruction and student success.

2 . Techniques for Implementing Innovative Approaches

1. Flipped Learning Technique Flipped learning is an approach where traditional classroom activities are reversed. Instead of listening to lectures in class and doing homework afterward, students learn new content (such as videos or readings) at home and use class time for active learning activities like discussions, problem-solving, and role-playing.
2. Benefits:
 - Maximizes class time for interactive activities: Class time is dedicated to discussions, exercises, and applying knowledge.
 - Promotes independent learning: Students take responsibility for their learning outside the classroom.
 - Facilitates deeper learning: With foundational knowledge gained at home, students can engage in more complex tasks and critical thinking during class.

Example:

- Video Lessons for Homework: The teacher assigns a video lesson on English grammar (e.g., past tense) for students to watch at home. In class, students apply this knowledge by discussing the rules, creating sentences, and engaging in problem-solving activities, such as role-playing conversations where they must use the past tense correctly.

3 . Task-Based Learning (TBLT) Technique

Task-Based Learning (TBLT) focuses on using real-world tasks that require communication and problem-solving rather than explicit grammar instruction. The emphasis is on language use and context rather than abstract rules. Benefits:

- Encourages practical language use: Students focus on completing meaningful tasks, which naturally involves using the language in context.
- Enhances communication skills: TBLT emphasizes communication as the central goal, fostering collaborative and real life language skills.
- Promotes student autonomy: Students take an active role in their learning as they work through tasks and challenges.

Example:

- Creating a Personal Timeline: Instead of simply teaching the past tense through grammar drills, students are asked to create a timeline of their personal experiences (e.g., their past vacations, milestones, etc.). Students must explain the events, using the correct past tense forms in a natural context, which leads to better retention and understanding of the grammar.

4 . Gamification Techniques

Gamification incorporates game-like elements into the classroom to make learning more engaging and motivating. By introducing features like leader boards, badges, and timed challenges, gamification turns lessons into interactive experiences.

Benefits:

- Motivates students: The competitive element makes learning fun and encourages students to put more effort into tasks.
- Fosters engagement: Game mechanics, such as earning points or badges, make students more involved and eager to participate.
- Increases retention: The repetition and rewards inherent in gamification help reinforce knowledge.

Example:

- Vocabulary Race with Quizizz or Kahoot :

In this activity, students play a timed vocabulary game on platforms like Quizizz or Kahoot . Each student must answer questions about new words or grammar points as quickly and accurately as possible. The leaderboard adds a competitive element, motivating students to improve their vocabulary and knowledge.

5 . Differentiation & Scaffolding Technique

Differentiation involves adapting lessons and tasks to meet the diverse needs of students, especially when there are varying levels of proficiency. Scaffolding is the support given to students to help them reach higher levels of understanding.

Benefits:

- Addresses diverse learning needs: Differentiation allows students at different levels to engage with content that matches their abilities.
- Supports struggling learners: Scaffolding provides temporary support until students can perform tasks independently.

6 . Fosters inclusive learning:

All students, regardless of their starting point, can make progress. Example:

- Sentence Frames and Visual Aids: For struggling learners, the teacher provides sentence frames (e.g., “I went to ____ yesterday”) to help them structure their writing or speaking. Visual aids, such as pictures or word charts, can help reinforce vocabulary and grammar. As students become more confident, the scaffolding is gradually reduced, allowing them to independently use English.
5. Blended Learning Technique Blended learning combines online learning with face-to-face classroom instruction. It allows students to learn content online (e.g., through videos, quizzes) and then apply it in class through discussions, projects, or group work.

Benefits:

- Offers flexibility: Students can learn at their own pace online and have more time in class for application and interaction.
- Encourages independent learning: Students take responsibility for their learning outside the classroom.
- Enhances classroom interaction: The in-class time is used for higher-level tasks that build on what students have learned independently.

Example:

- Watching a TED Talk at Home: The teacher assigns a TED Talk on a particular topic (e.g., technology, education) for students to watch at home. In class, students discuss the content, share their opinions, and debate different perspectives, applying the vocabulary and concepts they've learned from the video.