A Brief Analysis of the Application of “Flipped Classroom” Mode in College English Listening Teaching

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Abstract: With the reform and promotion of the new curriculum reform, colleges and universities in China have paid more and more attention to improving students’ English listening ability. The “flipped classroom” has gradually been promoted and applied by universities. Because of its innovation and uniqueness, college English teachers regard it as the main teaching method of English listening, and effectively improve the English listening and speaking level of college students. The paper will focus on the application of the "Flipped Classroom" mode in college English listening teaching.

1. Introduction

Under the background of the promotion of educational reform in China, the Ministry of Education has a higher demand on English teaching in Chinese universities, which has improved the status of English listening in higher education and attracted more attention from university teachers and students. Therefore, under the current situation of English teaching, college teachers should renew their teaching concepts, ponder over the current situation of English listening teaching, try to find out ways to solve problems, improve students’ learning methods and efficiency, change their teaching methods, apply the new teaching mode of “flipped classroom” to further improve the teaching level of English teachers.

2. What does flipped classroom mean?

With the promotion of the new curriculum reform, the flipped classroom has gradually been recognized and applied by most university teachers. The flipped classroom teaching mode gradually introduced in colleges and universities refers to that in the modern learning and teaching environment, teachers in colleges and universities mainly teach English by means of network multimedia projection, arrange homework well before class so that students can study independently after class, then use video to teach in class, and put forward appropriate questions for students to discuss in a small group and give timely corrections and guidance.

3. Teaching ways of flipped classroom

Influenced by the traditional college English listening teaching, the teaching mode of passive acceptance of knowledge in the classroom is mainly based on teachers. However, with the progress of the times and the reform of education, this traditional teaching method no longer adapts to today’s college classes. For this reason, the vast majority of colleges and universities in China have introduced a new teaching mode “flipped classroom”[1]. In the process of teaching English listening, teachers show students multimedia materials, including videos, movies, audio songs and other forms, and watch them before formal classes. Flipped classroom is a newly introduced English listening teaching mode. The basis of this teaching mode is to guide students to solve the tasks assigned by teachers and to take students as the core of teaching and carry out "flipped teaching". That is to say, before class, students should complete the tasks assigned by teachers and supplement them in class. Students are the leading teachers in classroom teaching. Friendly and interesting interaction between teachers and students before formal classes can attract students’ attention, stimulate students' interest and
enthusiasm in English listening. Interaction should also be conducted in class to maintain students' interest in listening, help students concentrate their attention, effectively improve the efficiency of English listening classes, and create efficient English classes. Teachers should take teaching objectives as the core and students as the main body in the process of teaching. Only in this way can we improve the quality of teaching by “flipped classroom” teaching mode. 

(1) Designing and assigning questions to guide students to study

The core of the new teaching mode of "flipped classroom" is that the teacher arranges the tasks well in advance, the students complete their study after class, and the teachers supplement the teaching of difficult and error-prone points in class. As a language, English has the charm that other subjects do not have, that is, its practical application. Especially English listening, it is very useful for students after they enter the society. If you want to achieve certain results in English listening, you need to practice more after class, pronunciation and some words that need to skip when reading sentences proficiently, not only that, but also requires teachers to cultivate students with certain English thinking, so that they can respond quickly when they hear English. The English listening course offered in colleges and universities does not focus on teachers’ teaching of English knowledge points, but on students' understanding and speed of what they hear. Therefore, the promotion and application of the teaching mode of "flipped classroom" is particularly important.

When conducting English listening teaching, teachers should select appropriate listening textbooks, assign them to students in advance, and let students do their own listening training before class, repeating a lot of carefully selected listening. Thus, it can greatly improve students’ listening level, and make students have a certain understanding of listening materials after class, thus greatly saving teachers' time in class, and can have more sufficient time to teach some English listening skills. In addition, teachers arrange appropriate questions in advance before listening, so that students can focus on the listening content while listening to improve listening level.

Teachers can cultivate students' English thinking ability by using the "flipped classroom" English listening teaching mode. Teachers select appropriate listening materials in advance so that students can practice a lot of oral English after class and correct oral English independently. To a certain extent, students' sensitivity to English is improved. Teachers renew their teaching concepts so that students can focus on the understanding of phonetics and deepen their understanding of English as a language. In the end, the time in English listening class is limited. If students can't digest and understand in English class, they can repeat a lot of listening after class. This not only saves teachers' time in class, but also makes students' foundation more reliable, and has a deeper understanding of the difficult points involved in English class, and greatly improves classroom efficiency.

For example, in college English listening, for example, “M: What do you think of the government's new tax cut proposal? W: Though it may give some benefit to the poor, its key component is the elimination of tax on dividends. That means the rich will get richer. Q: What does the woman think of the government's tax cut proposal?" Students may not understand the difficult vocabulary in sentences for the first time. Students listen several times after class to deepen their impression of the word. This will not only save time in class, but also improve students' English listening level. The significance of flipped classroom can effectively improve the efficiency of the classroom and help students to find out the leaks and fill the vacancies.

(2) Flipped classroom takes students as the leading role

The basis for students to learn a subject is to master the basic knowledge points of the course and form their own perfect knowledge system. The teaching mode of "Flipped Classroom" is based on students as the core of the classroom, which enables students to grasp the basis of English listening to the greatest extent, create an efficient classroom, improve the efficiency of English listening teaching, and thus improve students' English listening level. In the teaching mode of flipped classroom, students are the core of the whole class. Teachers should teach students with their understanding of learning, so as to improve students' independent learning of English listening ability. It enables students to arrange the most suitable learning methods according to their own learning progress, thus greatly improving learning efficiency, improving English listening level, and realizing the teaching mode with students as the core of the classroom. Teachers should teach students in
accordance with their aptitude and cultivate talents according to their different interests. We should change the teaching mode, innovate, take students as the core, improve students' independent learning ability, so as to help students develop good habits and then truly improve students' comprehensive ability and literacy.

(3) Enriching English listening class teaching content

Teachers adopt the teaching mode of “flipped classroom”, which enables students to practice a lot of listening materials to learn after class, improves students’ independent learning ability, saves much time in English listening class, makes teachers’ teaching and students’ learning no longer only adhere to the content of English textbooks, enriches the content of English classroom, and guides students to explore. Asking for extra-curricular English knowledge can broaden students' horizons, carry out diversified teaching and learning, broaden students' knowledge, and supplement and expand extracurricular English knowledge. In English listening, it often involves a lot of foreign culture and background knowledge. If students do not know these, it is very difficult to understand English listening quickly, which is not conducive to the improvement of college students' English listening level. Therefore, under certain conditions, teachers can properly broaden students’ knowledge of English, carry out diversified teaching, enrich extracurricular English knowledge in the classroom, and expand knowledge of foreign cultural environment, so as not only to enrich students' knowledge of English, but also to stimulate students' interest in learning English, improve students' enthusiasm for learning, to a certain extent. It improves the efficiency of English listening teaching so as to improve students’ English listening level. And the premise of broadening students' English vision is to require teachers to have a certain accumulation of extra-curricular knowledge of English, and urge teachers and students to make progress together.

(4) Recording the students' learning progress and making regular assessment

The teacher adopts the “flipped classroom” to require students to study independently and under the course. In the classroom, it is mainly used to solve the problems and doubts that students encounter. However, according to the research surface, the current situation of college English listening teaching in China is not ideal. The learning effect of college students has not reached the teaching goal. In the process of practicing English teaching, college English teachers pay more attention to the test scores of college students. The practical application of the students does not help. At this stage, college students have experienced English for more than ten years and have a very rich and solid English foundation. However, there is no achievement in practical communication applications, especially the ability of college students to communicate and hear, and the teachers in English classes occupy the main role, students passively accept knowledge in the classroom, which is not conducive to stimulating students' enthusiasm for learning, and even more will reduce students' enthusiasm for English learning, resulting in a mentality of learning, and at the university in English listening teaching. It is usually only carried out in the university's voice classroom. The teacher's teaching is to play the listening materials in a monotonous and repeated manner. Under such a teaching mode, it is difficult for college students to grasp the English listening skills.

Therefore, in order to improve students' self-awareness and self-discipline, English teachers should conduct regular tests to check whether students are engaged in serious self-learning under the class. And the teacher should record the results of the students' tests to judge whether the students have made progress during this period of time, and give certain praise or punishment measures. Only in this way can the students be urged to carry out serious self-learning under the class and achieve the purpose, which is to effectively improve the English listening comprehension of the students and create an effective English listening class.

(5) Using multimedia technology and grouping teaching to improve efficiency

In the process of classroom teaching, after the students complete the study independently, they should summarize and supplement the content of the textbooks in the classroom. It is necessary to learn more from multimedia technology. This will not only improve the efficiency of English listening teaching, but also attract students. Attention, stimulate students' interest in learning. For example, in English teaching, “Professor Hawking thinks it is important to keep everybody in touch with what science is about. In this article he explains why”. Students can discuss and explore in groups in
English, what science is used for, and after discussion and summary, find out the appropriate science and technology film clips to show to students, so as to deepen the learning and memory of this topic, stimulate students' enthusiasm for learning.

Teachers can group students reasonably in the teaching of English listening, according to their academic achievements, so that different members of each group are good at different aspects, so that each student can fully participate in teaching and learning. In group learning, teachers should give timely corrective guidance, use multimedia to show teaching videos and audio, let the group discuss and retell, so as to deepen the understanding of teaching content and improve students' English listening level.

(6) Choosing appropriate listening materials and summarizing.

Teachers should select listening materials, the latest hot news topics, and cultivate students’ innovative thinking and rational critical thinking in the process of listening, so as to cultivate students’ comprehensive quality. After a period of teaching, teachers should also make regular summaries, reflect on improving their teaching methods, update teaching concepts, find problems in teaching and solve them, reflect on their own teaching methods, constantly improve teaching methods and perfect themselves.

4. Conclusion:

Under the background of the new curriculum reform, English teaching in colleges and universities in China has entered a new era. Teachers should change their teaching concepts in a timely manner, update their teaching methods, and develop a teaching mode with students as the core subject, which can effectively improve the quality of teaching and students’ English listening level, creating an efficient English class.

Reference

