Research on the Application of Flipped Classroom Mode of College English Teaching

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Abstract: The introduction and application of the flipped classroom teaching mode revolutionized the traditional teaching mode. In College English Teaching, the flipped classroom teaching mode can effectively improve the students learning level, improve English teaching efficiency. This paper analyzes the connotation of the flipped classroom teaching mode, the significance of the flipped classroom teaching mode of College English Teaching, as well as the current problem in its application, and explores the specific approach to effective application of flipped classroom mode in college English teaching.

First, an introduction

College English is a very important and basic course, which is a key course designed to improve the students' personal skills and expand their horizons. Although the College English teaching mode has been in continuous reform, most colleges and universities still use the traditional teaching mode, hindering the development of the quality of College English teaching to a certain extent\[1\]. At present, the flipped classroom teaching mode, imported from the United States, which revolutionized the traditional teaching mode, has become the focus of global concern in the education circle. Although the flipped classroom teaching mode is being applied more and more widely, it is still in initial stage in China\[2\]. The following will analyze the connotation of the flipped classroom teaching mode, its significance and the problems in its application, as well as the approach to better application of flipped classroom mode in college English teaching.

Second, the connotation of the flipped classroom teaching mode

In 2011, Sahlman Khan of the United States put forward a new teaching mode, called flipping the classroom, which can also be called reversed classroom, which totally reversed the traditional teaching mode of "teacher imparting knowledge on the day, students completing assignment at night ", and created an opposite mode of " students completing assignment on the day, while learning new knowledge at night ", this kind of teaching mode, changes not only the traditional teaching mode, but also the relationship between students and teachers qualitatively. The students watch the teachers’ video lectures at home using modern information technology and network technology to study alone, and record the problems when they study the new knowledge, to communicate with teachers in the classroom, finding solutions. Classroom is no longer the place just for the teaching and lectures of the teachers, but a place where teachers and students communicate with each other, teachers help the students solve problems, organize activities, develop practical abilities, and so on.
Third, the great significance of the application of flipped classroom teaching mode in College English teaching

(a) it is helpful to improve the students' interest in learning English

In college English classroom, it is the English teachers that master the teaching schedule. Most teachers are too focused on English grammar and vocabulary knowledge in the teaching process, neglecting the students' learning difference, making the whole English classroom atmosphere dull and boring, reducing the students' learning initiative and interest[3]. Some teachers even have negative attitudes towards the difficult questions asked by the students, causing a lot of students to develop negative attitudes towards English learning.

In the application of the flipped classroom teaching mode, students become the main body of learning. The teachers pay more attention to the students’ difference and personal characteristics, helping the students change from passive learners to active learners, guiding the students in their learning process and providing a platform to solve specific problems. Students and teachers can have more mutual exchanges, which may effectively help students to learn. With more time for activities and more opportunities for them to display what they learn, the students’ interest in learning may greatly increase.

(b) it is conducive to carry out individual learning

There is a serious problem in the current college English teaching, which is that the teacher's teaching can't meet the individual needs of the students. Teachers mostly follow the previous "chalk and talk" teaching mode, and English text explanation needs a long time. In fact, students can have a preview, and can have a whole grasp of the English text. From this point, the teachers cannot meet the students' individual differences by just teaching text simply. The flipped classroom teaching mode broke the deadlock, saving the class time for text explanation, helping the students adjust their own progress in learning according to the actual situation. Thus the students can have personalized learning experience, they know more about what should be skipped and what should be focused. They know what is easy or difficult for them. When they encounter problems, they can turn to the teacher for help. Therefore, the flipped classroom teaching mode can satisfy students' individual differences in English learning to the greatest extent. It is conducive to the improvement of students' autonomous learning ability.

(c) It can help to create a good learning atmosphere

At present, the university campus network has been built and improved, the students access to the Internet is more convenient. After the application of flipped classroom teaching mode, students can learn from the electronic reading room and get a lot of English learning resources through the network teaching video. With the rapid development of technology, a variety of mobile devices came into being, such as smart phones, handheld computers, electronic dictionaries, can be used as a carrier of students' English learning. The New Horizon College English is a set of visual, listening, reading and writing as one of the interactive practice[4]. Students have at least three large English classes a week. The first is his preview to learn the content, then the teacher in class, and finally the consolidation exercise. English text, the word can be downloaded from the network, students can learn anytime, anywhere. Outside the classroom for learning, the students feel more relaxed, and more free, which is effective to break the boring, dull teaching atmosphere. Students who have encountered difficult problems can seek help from their teachers or other students, students can have mutual exchanges with other students and work together to complete the task of learning, thus improving the students interpersonal skills, enhancing the sincere friendship between the students at the same time.
Fourth, the analysis of the problems in the process of applying the flipped classroom teaching mode

(a) Teachers’ ideological problems
In the process of college English teaching, most of the English teachers are under the influence of traditional education concept for a long time, practicing the force-feeding teaching to the students, who are in a state of passive learning for a long time, the main body status of the students didn't show up, reducing the learning efficiency.

Before applying the flipped classroom teaching mode, most of the teachers may not agree with the idea that "the students are the main body of the study, and the teacher is the mentor". Therefore, ideologically, English teachers are not willing to accept the flipped classroom teaching mode. At present, many teachers teaching quality still can not meet the requirement of flipped classroom teaching mode, under which the teachers task burden increase with the students in the classroom provided more opportunities, critical thinking will increase, then teachers must be knowledgeable enough to answer the students questions. They also need to have more knowledge reserves to meet the students' individual differences. It is necessary to put more time and energy to teaching. At the same time, this kind of teaching mode of the application time is relatively short, a smaller range of promotion, just contact is difficult to be accepted by education scholars, so traditional educational philosophy hindered the smooth implementation of the flipped classroom teaching.

(b) The problem of supervision and management of the students' learning process. Under the flipped classroom mode, learning take place mostly after class, by the students themselves. This is very demanding for the students. For example, the students are required to watch the teaching video before they have class. If they don’t do it , it might be very difficult for the teacher to carry out the teaching afterwards. But how can the teacher make sure that the students follow the teachers’ instruction and finish all those tasks? How to manage their learning process? This is a very difficult question that the teacher must answer.

(c) Information technology problems
Implementation of the flipped classroom teaching mode needs modern multimedia hardware as a technical support. In this teaching model, students must learn through the network, but now some of the students cannot be equipped with computers and other mobile devices for economic reason. and network classroom is expensive, and the price is on the high side. Network speed is one of the obstacles to the development of network teaching in Colleges and universities, the quality of teaching video is also a big problem, what kind of teaching video is in accordance with the characteristics of the physical and mental development of the students. In this case, if the information technology applied in the teaching process is not good enough, the students can not learn independently, and thus hindering the smooth application of the flipped classroom teaching mode.

Fifth, proper measures for carrying out flipped classroom teaching mode

(a) to establish advanced teaching concepts
In order to carry out the flipped classroom teaching mode, College English teachers must change the traditional teaching idea. The teachers' teaching ideas should change from “teachers’ dominance” to “students-centered”. At the same time, teachers should adjust their mentality, accept new teacher-student relationship, eliminating outdated ideas, redefining their role as the guide of students and answering questions, and no authority to teach. Teachers should strengthen the supervision, guidance and motivation of students' preview, so that students can pay attention to all aspects of the education mode. Good teachers should discover each student’s inherent potential and
special personality, make careful analysis of the differences between students, provide one-on-one
guidance for students, to promote the development of students' personality, all these require teachers
to constantly improve their communication ability and guidance, in order to better guide the
students to learn. Teachers should set up the consciousness of lifelong learning, and take part in
education and teaching training regularly, renew their knowledge structure, expand their knowledge
and improve their teaching quality and professional ability.

(b) to enhance the quality of the application of modern information technology
The popularization and development of computer information technology has penetrated into the
field of education, Teachers and students need to improve their computer skills and information
technology literacy, in order to carry out flipped classroom mode smoothly. Teachers should master
the computer skills to make teaching video, guide students to actively communicate and give
effective teaching in the network teaching platform, fully mobilizing the students learning spirit and
enthusiasm of learning English. Students should master the computer skills to complete the course
through the use of multimedia information technology to learn, to find their own problems.
Therefore, colleges and universities should regularly carry out information technology training, so
that students and teachers can master the basic computer technology, to provide the hardware
support for the smooth implementation of the flipped classroom teaching mode.

(c) the cultivation of students' autonomous learning ability
After the application of flipped classroom teaching mode, students need to learn through the
network technology, which requires students to have a strong self-discipline and autonomous
learning ability. In the learning process, students hold their own learning time, learning progress.
Therefore, teachers should guide the students to formulate their own learning plan and learning time,
to enable students to complete learning tasks within the prescribed time, cultivating students'
self-discipline, and guiding students to record difficult problems promptly, then communicate with
classmates or teachers to solve the problem, only to make the students improve their individual
learning ability, to improve learning effect of students. In addition, teachers can set a reward
mechanism, establish the network of students autonomous learning records, and students
achievements in peacetime in the classroom will be reflected, this can not only enhance the
enthusiasm of students to learn English, but also can train students’ study habit on their own
initiative[5].

(d) reform the present system of evaluation
The important characteristic of the flipped classroom is that the teacher's teaching time in the
classroom is reduced, leaving most of the classroom time to the teacher student interaction and
student exchange. The main task of the teachers in the classroom is: to answer the questions raised
by the students, to provide personalized guidance for students, and organize various teaching
activities, mobilize the enthusiasm of students to participate in classroom activities. How to
evaluate the performance of students in the classroom? How to make the evaluation reflect these
differences? How to use the evaluation system to mobilize the enthusiasm of the students? This is a
question that should be answered in the evaluation system. However, the existing education
evaluation system is concerned with the students' learning results, mainly to test scores to measure
the students' learning effect[6]. Obviously, this evaluation system can not reflect the differences in
classroom performance of students, it is more difficult to mobilize the enthusiasm of students to
participate in the classroom. On the other hand, the flipped classroom also involves student
cooperation ability, organization ability, self management ability, and the expression ability of the
training. The flipped classroom evaluation system should pay more attention to the evaluation on
students' emotion, attitude and value conception. Therefore, it is necessary to reform the existing evaluation system, establish a match with the flipped classroom evaluation system, which is one of the important guarantees of the smooth implementation of flipped classroom in the College English classroom.

**Sixth, the conclusion**

To summarize, it is necessary and feasible to carry out flipped classroom mode in college English teaching. The important precondition is that college students have self-learning ability at this stage, the flipped classroom teaching mode, as a new mode of teaching is in line with the concept of the advanced teaching ideas of helping students to self-study, and gain more knowledge in seminar style teaching and web-based autonomous learning, it is widely used in various colleges and universities. After the application of the flipped classroom teaching model, teachers' and students' role definition changes, enabling students to learn in a relaxed and free environment, also improving students' autonomous learning ability and communication ability. At present, this kind of teaching mode of the flipped classroom is still in the exploratory stage. Due to the influence of traditional education ideas, the flipped classroom teaching mode has not been achieved completely application, which requires educators to change the old ideas, students and teachers to learn multimedia information technology continuously, improving their modern scientific and technological literacy, therefore, the teachers should change their roles, guide students to study independently, enable the students to have healthy development and become qualified talents in the new century.

**Reference**