

Benefits of Early Learning of English in Preschool and Primary Education

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Abstract: This article discusses the benefits of learning English early in kindergarten and primary school. It offers an overview of the cognitive, global, and psychosocial benefits of such training and provides examples of scientific research supporting its effectiveness. The article also looks at practical examples of games and exercises that help develop language skills. Overall, it emphasizes the importance of early English language acquisition for children's future success and development.

Keywords: early learning, English language, preschool education, primary education, benefits.

INTRODUCTION

In the fast-paced and interconnected world we live in today, the importance of early language learning, particularly English, cannot be overstated. For young learners in preschool and primary education, starting to learn English at an early age can bring a multitude of benefits that extend beyond just linguistic proficiency. This article explores the significant advantages of introducing English language education at the preschool and primary levels and how it positively impacts a child's cognitive, social, and academic development.

Learning English at an early age helps develop mental abilities

Learning English at an early age has been shown to have several benefits for mental development. Research shows that early exposure to a second language, such as English, can have a positive impact on cognitive skills, language acquisition, problem-solving ability, and even overall academic performance.

Cognitive skills. Learning English at a young age can improve cognitive skills such as memory, attention and flexibility. It trains the brain by introducing new language patterns, vocabulary, and grammatical structures that can improve cognitive flexibility and improve problem-solving abilities [2; 224].

Language acquisition. Children have a unique ability to learn languages easily, and early exposure to English can make this process easier. Young learners are more receptive to new sounds, pronunciation and intonation, making it easier for them to develop accurate pronunciation and natural fluency in English.

Improving academic performance. Research has shown that early English language instruction can positively impact performance in a variety of subjects, including math, science, and reading comprehension. Early learning of English can improve overall literacy skills and critical thinking abilities, giving children a strong foundation for their academic journey.

Cultural awareness and global understanding. Learning English at an early age exposes children to different cultures and points of view. It promotes cultural awareness, tolerance and respect for

diversity. it also gives them the skills needed to communicate and interact with people from all over the world, promoting global understanding and empathy.

Enhanced problem solving abilities. Learning a second language, such as English, involves understanding and analyzing different language structures. This process stimulates critical thinking and problem-solving abilities as students are required to decipher and express meanings in different contexts [7; 83]. Such cognitive challenges can lead to improved analytical skills and creativity.

Expanding future opportunities. English is widely considered the global language of communication, business and academia. early learning of this language opens up many future opportunities for young learners. Knowing English can improve their career prospects, facilitate access to higher education and give them a competitive advantage in an increasingly interconnected world.

Learning English at an early age provides numerous benefits for mental development. It improves cognitive skills, enhances language acquisition, enhances academic performance, promotes cultural understanding, and equips students with problem-solving abilities. these benefits support children's holistic growth and future success.

Examples of games and exercises used to develop language skills

There are many games and activities that can be used to develop language skills in a fun and engaging way. Here are some examples:

1. Word association: players take turns saying a word, and the next player must quickly come up with another word related to it. This helps improve vocabulary and semantic connections between words.
2. "Erudite." This classic word-building game challenges players to form words on a crossword-style board using letter tiles. It improves spelling, vocabulary and strategic thinking.
3. Picture: Players draw pictures to represent words or phrases and their teammates have to guess what they illustrate. This game promotes visual communication, creativity and vocabulary development.
4. Charades: Players act out or imitate words or phrases without saying a word, while others try to guess what is being depicted. It improves body language interpretation, vocabulary retention, and communication skills [1; 368].
5. Tongue twisters. These phrases consist of a sequence of similar sounds that are difficult to pronounce quickly and correctly. Reading tongue twisters helps improve pronunciation, pronunciation and fluency.
6. Telling a story. One player begins the story with a sentence, and each subsequent player adds a sentence to continue the story. This game develops creativity, verbal expression and cooperation.
7. Riddles. Players solve puzzles or riddles that require critical thinking and understanding of language. Riddles improve problem-solving abilities, vocabulary and lateral thinking skills.
8. Categories. Players take turns naming objects of a certain category (for example, animals, fruits, countries). This game improves vocabulary, categorization skills and quick thinking.
9. Sentence building: Players take turns adding words to form a grammatically correct sentence. this exercise improves sentence structure, grammar and vocabulary use.
10. Vocabulary memory. Create cards with words and their definitions or synonyms. Players take turns turning over cards to find matching pairs, thereby improving memory, vocabulary and word association skills.

11. Word bingo: Players receive bingo cards with different words. The caller reads out the definitions, and the players mark the corresponding words on their cards. This game strengthens vocabulary and listening skills.

12. Starting a story: Give clues in the form of sentences or pictures, and players will continue the story based on the given clue. This activity promotes creativity, storytelling abilities, and narrative development.

13. Chains of words. Players take turns naming words that begin with the last letter of the previous word. This game develops quick thinking, vocabulary memorization and phonemic awareness.

14. Executioner: one player guesses the word, and the rest guess the letters one by one. Incorrect guesses add pieces to the "hanging" figure. This game strengthens spelling, vocabulary and letter recognition.

15. Vocabulary building: Create flashcards with new words or idioms and their meanings. Encourage players to use these words in sentences during conversation or play games such as guess the word to reinforce vocabulary [5; 88].

While these games and activities can be enjoyable, it is important to tailor them to the specific language skills and age group you are targeting. Regular practice and feedback are crucial for effective language development.

Advantages of knowing English when looking for work and studying abroad

Knowing English provides many advantages when looking for work and studying abroad. Here are some of the key benefits:

- Global language. English is the most widely spoken language in the world, spoken by approximately 1.5 billion people. It serves as a lingua franca in many countries, making it important for international communication across industries and academia [4; 4].
- Expanded employment opportunities. Knowledge of English significantly increases your chances of finding a job. Many multinational companies require their employees to have a good command of the English language, as this allows them to communicate effectively with colleagues, clients and partners around the world. It also opens up job opportunities in countries where English is the main language.
- Higher salaries. Studies have shown that people who speak English tend to earn higher salaries compared to their non-English-speaking counterparts. This advantage arises from increased access to international labor markets and the ability to negotiate better job offers due to language skills.
- Access to knowledge and resources. English is the main language of academia and research. By knowing English, you have access to a wealth of knowledge, research, and educational resources available in the language. This access is especially important when studying abroad as it allows you to take full advantage of academic materials and collaborate with peers from different countries.
- Academic opportunities. Many reputable universities around the world offer courses and degree programs in English. By knowing English, you can apply to these universities, expanding your educational prospects and potentially receiving scholarships or financial aid. In addition, knowledge of English is often a requirement for participation in international exchange programs that offer valuable cultural and educational experiences.
- Cultural integration. Studying abroad involves immersion in another culture. Knowing English makes it easier to integrate and interact with local communities, allowing you to build meaningful relationships with people from different backgrounds. It also allows you to explore your host country more independently, enhancing the overall experience.
- Networking and collaboration. English is the language of international conferences, seminars and professional events. Fluency in English allows you to actively participate and interact

with professionals from a variety of fields, opening up opportunities for networking and potential collaboration. This can lead to career advancement and exposure to new ideas and trends.

- Improving communication skills. Learning English develops your general communication skills, including listening, speaking, reading and writing. These skills are applicable in a variety of professional and personal contexts, making you a more effective communicator in any language.
- Personal growth. Studying abroad and interacting with different cultures broadens your horizons, increases your adaptability and promotes personal growth. By knowing English, you will be able to fully embrace these experiences and communicate with people from different walks of life, broadening your horizons and developing a more global mindset.
- Increased confidence. Being able to communicate effectively in English gives you confidence in your abilities. This confidence can positively impact interviews, professional presentations, academic discussions, and social interactions, allowing you to navigate a variety of situations with ease [6; 98].

Knowing English provides many advantages when seeking employment opportunities and studying abroad. It broadens your horizons, increases your employability and opens doors to new academic, cultural and personal experiences. English language proficiency is a valuable asset in today's interconnected world, providing a competitive advantage and facilitating success in a diverse professional and educational environment.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, there are many benefits to learning English early in preschool and primary schools. It gives children a strong foundation for learning a global language, enhances cognitive development, improves academic performance and promotes cultural awareness. Moreover, it provides students with valuable communication skills, enhances their future opportunities and promotes multilingualism. Overall, exposure to English at an early age can have a long-term positive impact on children's educational journey and personal growth.

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