

EFL TEACHERS: HOW TO TEACH ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE TO YOUNG BEGINNERS

Gulnoza Toshmukhammedova

Teacher at SamSIFL.

Abstract. This article provides information on how to use the concept of TEFL, the importance of age factors in teaching foreign languages, levels of knowledge of a foreign language, who is a beginner student, a number of important recommendations for teaching foreign languages to the younger generation based on scientific articles, books, and scholarly research.

Key words: levels, EFL, ESL, beginner, role.

Teaching English as a second language to Beginners is tough for anyone. It can strike fear in the hearts of new teachers especially if they don't know the students' first language. It's quite possible to teach effectively for any teacher. In this article you are given practical advice on how to teach English to Beginners and tools you can use in your classroom (such as materials and activities) to get them excited about their developing English skills.

What does EFL stands for?

Several terms used for English as a Foreign language teaching are:

- Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) - traditionally used for teaching English to people who want to learn English for work or leisure reasons.
- Teaching English as a Second Language (TESL) - more commonly used for people who live in an English speaking country, but who don't speak English as a first language.
- Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) - a fixed term that commonly used incorporates both TEFL and TESL.

As an English as a Foreign language teacher, you'll need to plan the lesson, choose proper lesson materials, mark and provide appropriate feedback on both

oral and writing, organize social and cultural activities, events such as school parties, dinners, excursions and so on.

What is the meaning of a beginner ESL student?

Before giving points for teaching English as a second language to beginners, let's start with an overview of each student's level. In English language students classified as beginner-level, intermediate-level and advanced-level learners.

There are also several classification systems, such as International English Language Testing system (IELTS), Common European Framework of Reference for languages (CEFR) which assigns students to different categories. These kind of testing systems also use above mentioned levels. Let's pay high attention to Beginners.

A beginner English student who has a little or no knowledge of English. Beginner student is focused on learning Basic English such as essential daily life vocabulary, basic adjectives and place names. In the starting point of teaching they should know several commonly used structures which are related to asking daily questions and of course answering general questions. Because of the fact that learning English is new field for them. May be they don't have any ideas and supposes about what is English language that's why they are classified as Beginners.

There are several reasons for starting with the teaching of English at an early age. As the concept "teaching English to young learners" suggests, age plays a crucial role in what we teach and how we teach it, since a young learner class is different from an adult and/or a teenager class in terms of the learners' language learning needs, the language competences emphasized, and the cognitive skills addressed. Specialists have in mind and expect that gaining some additional years for the learning of English as the most important international language will take learners to higher levels of competence in its use. Language researchers and educationalists point out that the younger children are the less difficulty they have with the second language acquisition because of the greater plasticity of their neuronal circuits. Early learning of a second language is also hoped to pave the way for more intercultural understanding and facilitate the later learning of a third or

fourth language. Studies have proved that learning English at an early age helps students grasp their mother tongue better, simultaneously enabling them to acquire remarkable proficiency in their second language. The implementation of English teaching in kindergarten may also become a useful means for the younger generation to understand a deeper knowledge of religions and cultures in the world. Young children are not like other students. Their needs are unique and teacher must be aware of this. It is important to understand that instructor could be one of the first adults a young child has interacted with outside of his or her own family. The separation from their parents in the beginning can be difficult, and a teacher must help them through this transition. A child can become very attached to you as a “substitute” for their parents, or they may shun you completely. Great teachers are adaptable to the emotional reactions of their students. And when it comes to your students’ interactions with other children, this can be one of the first times they interact with children their age. A teacher’s role often becomes that of mediator when children have problems sharing or learning how to get along. Furthermore, teachers in early education need to be creative and adaptive. They must think outside their own mature perspective and be able to place themselves in their students’ shoes. Lessons in early education classrooms are very hands-on. They involve arts and crafts, storytelling, exercise, educational games and more. You need to be fast on your feet and highly adaptable to continuously come up with new ways to guide children through their early learning stages. According to Mur (1998: 5), a child arrives to school full of instincts and skills which he has already begun to use and he will continue to use them for learning his own language as well

as a foreign language like in the case of English:

- Children have the ability for indirect learning
- They have a lively imagination.
- By nature they are creative in different communication situations.
- They are able to grasp the gist of a message.
- Children love speaking.

David Singleton states that in learning a foreign language, “younger - better

in the long run,” but points out that there are many exceptions, noting that five percent of adult bilinguals master a foreign language even though they begin learning it when they are well into adulthood, but it is generally agreed that younger people learning a foreign language typically achieve fluency more often than older learners. Older learners may be able to speak the language but will lack the native fluidity of younger learners.

To conclude the process of teaching is the most important part of our life. I really respect teachers. Because of the fact that teachers can teach everyone. They can be young or old generation or they are from different countries and cultures. However, teachers should teach them by honest. That is why the reputation of teachers is higher around the world. I hope you have found the aspects you need in this article.

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