

Construction of Cultural Character of English Courses

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Abstract: Course teaching actually plays an important role in daily teaching of school. Both the value and overall goal of daily education are an important direction for the reform of current school course. English course is an important object of teaching practice to adapt to the current frequent exchange between China and the world, and the teaching of English course should focus on cultural character. However, past English course teaching tends to emphasize its instrumentality and grammatical structures. Therefore, to train more excellent overall talents, good cultural characters of English courses should be exerted for its construction.

1 INTRODUCTION

Concerned about the changes in socio-economic conditions, many countries have conducted course innovation according to their own situations. They explore and consider the goals, ideas and specific methods of daily teaching. In this process, thinking paradigms of course teaching have gradually appeared. According to the actual development of China's English course, although English course construction in China has made some progress, it has not achieved great breakthrough in theory and practice. The fundamental reason is that in long time of development and practice, English course in China has narrow scope of study, especially without innovation on English cultural characters. This leads to the sluggish development of English teaching in China. Therefore, the cultural character of English course should be explored in depth for the rapid development of China's English Teaching.

2 CULTURE AND THE CULTURAL CHARACTER OF ENGLISH COURSE

Culture is actually a complex phenomenon and important achievement of human social development. It is an important phenomenon concerned by related academic researchers. Although culture does not have the physical form, but its influence is very profound. With certain regularity, culture is the accumulation of a variety of related ideas and beliefs in human society, and an important

means for the transformation of human society. It expressed human's emotions and desire with an active function on human and society. Although the culture between the East and West has some differences, these differences will not affect people's cultural concerns.

2.1 Basic Characters of English Course Teaching

English courses are actually the major one among foreign language courses. English courses should combine knowledge with practice of English language. Besides, it is also important to feel English culture concretely. Since the basic education stage, English courses have two characters. On the one hand, English course teaching has the character of instrumentality; on the other hand, it also has the cultural character. Based on specific analysis, the teaching of English courses has several aspects of characters.

Firstly, English Course has character of fundamentality. English course teaching is especially important for personnel training, which is the need of diversified exchange in the entire society. It helps develop student's character and sharpen their individual will. In the 21st century, all countries have entered the era of interdependence and blending, and the whole planet has become a platform for mutual connection. In 21st century, communication between different countries is inseparable from English, so fundamentality and instrumentality role of English is very important. Only by mastering the language, can the information be analyzed and processed based on platform of mutual connection. In addition, English

course also has the character of exchange, which is the common character of all languages. However, English courses in China have been emphasizing on grammar analysis. Thus, students may have mastered the English knowledge, but they are not able to directly use the grammar for English exchange. So for the teaching of English, traditional thinking should be gradually abandoned. Traditional course should be reformed, paying attention to the importance of teaching communication skills in English courses. The essence of language is cultural characteristic, so communication should focus on the excavation of culture essence to protect the practical application of English, avoiding communication barriers caused by English knowledge learning.

2.2 Theoretical Basis for the Cultural Character of English Teaching

For courses with different content, cultures have different expressive forces. From the perspective of semiotics, cultural character of courses is an invisible cultural symbol system. For native language speakers, the cultural character of their mother tongue has long-term influence on society, so they are utilizing characters of their language daily but unconsciously. Communication of language is a conscious behavior. But as a foreign language, English's own culture characters cannot be easily mastered by subjective perception. Foreign learners do not have the main context, so they should initiatively create the environment of speaking English.

English Teaching requires theoretical support for the development of cultural character. Course itself is a learning process, so along with in-depth practice and theoretical research of courses, English course teaching should further form better inheritance. In fact, English course is the regeneration of English culture, so cultural analysis should be adopted to make the course more attractive in the teaching process. According to cultural reproduction and the law of development, English course teaching should be further explored to highlight the subjectivity of culture in teaching process, manifesting both knowledge of culture and cultural characters. Then in the process of English teaching, some rigid and inflexible situation can be avoided. Only by combining teaching with daily life, can the cultural character of English teaching be manifested.

In the past, English teaching in China showed the state of instrumentality, which led to homogeneity among English courses. A lot of efforts have been made in written examination. Although such English teaching cannot completely hide cultural characters of language, it fails to contain more English culture.

Therefore, cultural regeneration should be used for cultural characters of English teaching to avoid the pure instrumentality of English Course.

3 CONSTRUCTION OF CULTURAL CHARACTERISTICS OF ENGLISH COURSE

For any course with specific subjects in the field of school education, it inevitably forms specific characters because of their own disciplinary culture. This is mainly determined by the core values of course teaching. Therefore, course teaching in school should exert the influence of culture, and these aspects all have close link with cultures. English teaching has its cultural characters, with certain inherent characteristics. In order to really exert the character of English courses, some characteristics need to be focused and analyzed in the process of constructing cultural characters, avoiding direct rote of traditional language and culture theory.

3.1 Construction of Independent Cultural Characters of English Teaching

From a cultural point of view, if teaching of English courses is only regarded as an instrument, then English courses will gradually lose its vitality and lead to some teaching deformities. For example, traditional English course utilized examination as an important baton, and all courses aim at training abilities of knowledge and examination. Relevant knowledge of English language courses is spread through method of feeding, which cannot really exert its cultural characters. Instead of relying on examination-oriented education, English cultural knowledge should be a language culture with independent character. It is not a mechanical copy, imitation or affiliate product of any culture. Therefore, the independence of cultural character should be regarded as subjective initiative phenomenon in the process of teaching English courses. The independence of English courses is particularly important during the process of English course development. English courses should be the processing rather than substitution of English language and cultural materials. The value of English cultural character is reflected on its own subjective initiative of human beings, emphasizing that language learner is an independent theme, which is also an important core of contemporary education

development. If the independent characters of English course culture are not considered, it is very difficult to reconstruct English courses, especially for regression of English course cultural character.

3.2 Construction of Cultural Character of English Teaching

In the past long period, English courses have been used as an important instrument. Therefore, in order to return to English courses based on cultural characters, we need to take into account the constructing characteristic of cultural character. Once English is regarded as a pure instrument, the development of English is just a static process. The excavation of deep meaning of English courses should not be static, but return to a dynamic state. Both dynamic characteristic and the interaction between students and teachers are important foundation for construction of cultural character. Besides, individual experience can be utilized to explore relevant courses and knowledge in depth, thus gradually forming a process of emancipation and generation. Thus, the English culture courses should not always follow the syllabus, but develop according to English culture. In particular, relevant course content should be adjusted based on acceptance ability and level of learners. Cultural construction character of English course determines that rather than being an instrument, courses should have some uncertainty, which can be accomplished by English teachers. In construction of cultural characters, teachers also need to truly regard students as the center to construct a better English course, thereby enriching the entire English language courses and fully mobilizing the initiative of students.

3.3 Construction of Practicality Character in English Course

In the process of teaching, English courses should also have character of practicality. English teaching is to promote the communication of people, and practice is the process of exerting personal initiative. English courses should start from people's practice. Only that individuals show their initiative, can they better participate in expression with language. English cultural character should be implemented in communication and expression practice of language. English course teaching aims at enhancing students' practical ability to communicate in English. Common social practice mainly focuses on transforming objective things. However, practicality of English courses is to construct students' ideological and cultivate students' comprehensive

literacy in language course teaching. Moreover, the cultural characters of English course are mainly reflected in the integration process of personal humanities and language skills. Among these characters, practicality indicates a kind of initiative which helps students to actively learn and utilize English in practice. Then students can really express themselves in platform of English courses and liberate their thinking ability for construction of their English language structure. If English course only focuses on imparting theoretical knowledge, then it will lose its significance in teaching of English. Such teaching method cannot really allow students to actively participate in learning and show the practicality character of English course teaching. Therefore, practicality of English course is one of the most important characters of teaching. Only if English course is well conducted around this character, can it promote the upgrading of students' comprehensive literacy.

5 CONCLUSIONS

With the development of economic globalization, all countries in the world gradually become closer in economic, political and cultural cooperation, so it is important to further examine the value of English teaching. The purpose is to allow students to not only use simple English verbal and translate written English materials into Chinese, but also achieve sustainable development with current diversified values and cultures. These above factors will bring important opportunities to the cultural character of English course, but they also put forward new development requirements on English teaching in China. Therefore, the cultural character of English courses teaching should be fully exerted. Under the concept of "balance between education and learning", the initiative of both educators and learners can improve China's English course, eventually training more talents for socialism construction and the great revival of the Chinese nation.

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