

## PREDOMINANT CHALLENGES STUDENTS OF UZBEKISTAN FACE WHEN ACQUIRING WRITING SKILLS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE CLASSROOM

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### ABSTRACT

Nowadays the intercommunication between Uzbekistan and English-speaking countries grows rapidly. It, of course, has its impact on the development of cultural exchange. The importance of learning languages remains one of the most inevitable and important for those who intend to get acquainted with the culture of foreign country.

Writing is an essential skill that students will need later in life. Introducing and practicing writing with engaging activities in schools is able to boost students' confidence and writing will enchant them in the long run. It is obvious that writing skills are vital for lower elementary school students to continue learning in all academic areas, communication, and self-expression. Writing exercises in schools promote handwriting improvement as well as general academic development through critical thinking.

**Keywords:** writing, skills, communication, critical thinking, vocabulary, feedback

### INTRODUCTION

In our country, the issues of further improvement of education and upbringing, science, the acquisition of deep knowledge by young people, their mastery of foreign languages and modern information and communication technologies still remain the priorities of state policy. This means that thousands and thousands of new talents will appear in our country, many children will reveal their potential. “We see the creation of a just society as the most important goal of building an independent and strong state in Uzbekistan, where the main value is a person, his interests, his rights and freedoms are respected. We want to take a worthy place both in the Muslim world and in the world community. We are well aware that this is primarily due to the improvement of the system of education and enlightenment, familiarization of our youth - the future of the

country - with the most modern knowledge, education of a comprehensively and harmoniously developed personality. Modern Uzbekistan is focused in its development on the formation of a harmoniously developed, highly educated, thinking younger generation. In our state, great importance is attached to the upbringing of spirituality, morality, and enlightenment. Democracy, civil society, ensuring human rights and freedoms are possible only when a person is enlightened, when he is not just a consumer of the benefits of democracy, but an active creator and defender of them - only in this case he becomes a citizen in the full sense of the word. So, approved by President Sh.M. Mirziyoyev on February 7, 2017, based on the results of a comprehensive study of current and exciting issues for the population, an analysis of the current legislation and advanced foreign experience, as well as a wide public discussion - the Action Strategy for the five priority areas of development of the Republic of Uzbekistan in 2017-2021 years in the direction of development of the social sphere noted, including the development and education.

## LITERATURE REVIEW AND METHODOLOGY

A search in modern dictionaries reveals that learning is “the acquisition and knowledge of a subject or skill through study, experience, or learning. Additionally, an expert in educational psychology would define learning as "a change in a person brought about by experience".<sup>1</sup>(Slavin, 2003, p. 138). Similarly, teaching, implied in the first definition of learning, can be defined as "showing or helping someone learn how to do something, instructions that guide in the study of something, giving knowledge, forcing to know or understand."<sup>2</sup> The writing process is also applicable to other fields, such as mathematics and science, where the learned features of planning, research, and review are also applied. As a follow-up effect, general knowledge and vocabulary are also improved.

Writing helps students in their social development and thanks to writing students are in harmony with what is happening in the world around them. At the same time, writing skills will help students in their verbal communication. It is a predominant fact that students should know that they need to use only their own knowledge and not to substitute it with computers, since computers may make mistakes too. In our modern world, thanks to the rapid development of information technology, writers are in a great demand to create digital media content. Digital marketing companies need a content writer. News websites,

<sup>1</sup> Slavin R.E., Importance Of Learner Diversity In The Classroom, 2003, p. 138

<sup>2</sup> Douglas Brown H., Principles of language learning and teaching, San Francisco State University, 2006, p. 313



social media marketing corporations, and other related and non-related IT corporations need writers to help them write for digital marketing channels such as brand quotes, ads, social media posts, blogs, and etc.

Each student tends to face diverse challenges in learning how to write. It is understood that all students are special and unique in their own way. The problems they face in learning may somehow prevent students from learning to write a good text. And the information below is devoted to the obstacles that students face when writing.

According to Misbah, a shortage of vocabulary has a tendency to lead students to have troubles in writing skills acquisition. There is a widely spread opinion that vocabulary is a fundamental element of a sentence construction, which is the foundation of effective writing skills by Asep (2014). Almost every day students use spoken and written words to communicate and share their ideas, beliefs, emotions and feelings to those who surround them. Effective vocabulary can contribute students to speak or write to express themselves and their ideas, thoughts and feelings. And, moreover, the usage of an electronic dictionary and other types of reading can help students that have limited vocabulary.

## DISCUSSION

Most experts believe that some elementary school students may also experience problems with grammar. Generally, grammar plays an important role in writing, as grammar provides data that helps readers to understand its meaning. Grammar also explains the forms and structure of words, called morphology, and how they are arranged in sentences, called syntax. Having very limited knowledge of grammar tends to result in various difficulties to write sentences with proper grammar among students. According to Muhammad Farid et al. (2016), students more often make mistakes in subject-verb agreement, pronouns, tenses, articles, prepositions, and basic sentence structures.

It is clearly that teaching has always been a challenge for teachers. Teaching English at the elementary level differs much more from teaching at other levels of learners such as intermediate and advanced levels. The challenge will somehow render teaching ineffective. And this leads to following challenges which are faced by teachers. According to a claim confirmed by Asep (2014)<sup>3</sup>, nowadays it is more difficult for teachers to motivate students, and even not because

<sup>3</sup> Asep, S. (2014). The Challenges in Teaching Writing Skill at Junior High School: Problems and Solutions. p 187



of the students' mischief, but mostly owing to the fact that the students are not interested and involved in learning to write. The younger generation believes that they are allowed to do whatever they want through too much freedom that is given by their parents. And concerning this issue, Abrarr (2016) proclaims that when students are not willing to study or to learn, it is a sign of lack of motivation. Another problem that teachers experience when teaching writing is the presence of students of different levels in the same classroom. In many elementary grades, students of different levels study in the same classroom. Unfortunately, different levels of students will cause difficulties due to the aim to cater all their levels at the same time (Asep, 2014).

## RESULTS

Different levels of writing skills require the use of different approaches. As a result, it is challenging for teachers to plan their lessons and prepare appropriate activities for students. Moreover, parental indifference is another problem. Because of the absence of parental support, it is hard for teachers to help students. Students who lack warmth and affection from their parents will prevent them from succeeding in the learning process (Gündoğmus, 2018)<sup>4</sup>. This is due to insufficient guidance, motivation and support from parents. In addition, lack of professional experience is another obstacle faced by teachers (Gündoğmus, 2018). And this will lead to stress and tension in teaching primary school students, especially among novice teachers.

It is obvious that teacher should be good at multitasking and such multiple teacher roles are also a problem. Teacher's experience depends on their level of previous experience, studying and training. Aspired teachers will have to take time to adapt very well with their students. Appropriate materials and activities for lessons can only be prepared if teachers are really aware of their students' knowledge, interests and abilities. Besides that, teachers need a greater amount of time for preparing new teaching material, relevant plans, beneficial activities, and also introduce comments, assessments and reflections.

## CONCLUSION

Finally, according to Anyiendah (2017)<sup>5</sup>, another problem tends to be the lack of student interest. It is always hard to develop writing skills, but, nevertheless, it is

<sup>4</sup> Gündoğmus H. D. (2018) The Difficulties Experienced by Teachers in the Process of Primary Reading and Writing Instruction and Their Solution Offers for Eliminating These Difficulties.- p. 88

<sup>5</sup> Anyiendah M. S. (2017) Challenges Faced by Teachers When Teaching English in Public Primary Schools in Kenya. – p. 101

always an interesting challenge. Students often do not show any interest in writing, as they need to know a wide range of aspects in order to create good work. Students need to know punctuation, grammar, vocabulary, spelling and sentence structure for writing a really good text. By understanding the challenges of both students and teachers in learning and teaching writing skills, teachers are advised to choose the best possible approach to teaching writing skills by providing effective feedback and recommendations.

In addition, school management should take all the necessary measures address the problems faced by teachers in order to help teachers have an effective learning process. Finally, teachers can emphasize the importance of teaching writing skills to students to motivate them to learn writing skills.<sup>6</sup>

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