



## ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF MODERN APPROACHES OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING

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**Annotation** *This article is about the methods of using language approaches in teaching English to students. In the article you will learn about the approaches.*

**Key words** *Method, approaches, advantages, disadvantages, activities, real-life, ability.*

Every method has controversial sides. Also modern approaches of English language teaching have advantages and slight disadvantages. Disadvantages are not serious; language teachers can decrease them after using several times communicative approach. Nevertheless, there are a lot of beneficial sides to implement this method during your lessons. If you focus on following features of CLT, you will find out how interesting and effective method it is. Modern approach of ELT and communicative approach both of them are similar method. They like usage from each other.

To start the lesson with “Today we are going to learn about the Present Perfect Simple”, instead of to start the lesson with “Today we are going to learn how to do a job interview in English”. “Present Perfect Simple” will frighten pupils, but pupils will interest in practicing English for a good job interview

Useful

The curriculums of modern approach and communicative approach usually have clear and specific main topics (situations) to increase learners’ communicative and social competence.

Confident

Teachers encourage pupils to express a lot. Errors are considered natural. The teacher will not correct every sentence immediately. It won’t hurt the self-esteem of pupils.

Brainstorming

Pupils can have incomplete knowledge but still communicate effectively. For example, if the pupil doesn't know how to say “chair”, they can describe it as “the thing you sit in.”

Authentic

Situation and atmosphere are close to people’s real life. Real life situations and communication are unpredictable. A pupil may learn all the correct forms of communication but may not know when to use them appropriately. Role-play and



simulation provide opportunities to react to these situations and to give the pupils a taste of real life.

#### Harmonious

The class will be harmonious through role-play games, interview, and other interaction activities by the teacher.

#### Disadvantages

##### Evaluation

It's hard to make a flawless evaluation of modern approach and communicative approach, because there are a lot of instable and changeful factors. "Communicative Approach" is aimed at training pupils' listening and speaking, so it relatively ignores the training of reading and writing. Therefore, it is hard to evaluate every aspect of English ability.

##### Limited instructional hours

Role-play games and simulations involve a lot of conversations and discussions. Thus it may not be very suitable for a large class. The teacher has to spend a lot of time on interactions of pupils and he is not able to predict the process in the class.

##### Losing control

Since the activities require the full participation of the pupils and minimum participation from the teacher, the teacher may fear that he may lose control of the class.

##### Not suitable for all levels

Low proficiency pupils who do not have the necessary communicative competence to carry out the activity. Communicative activities would be more suitable for intermediate and advanced learners.

##### Activities are difficult to monitor

With so much activity both physical and verbal going on, it is sometimes difficult for the teacher to monitor a pupil's performance. There is the fear among teachers that the pupils are having too much fun and that no learning is taking place.

##### Introverted pupils

Speaking will stop shy people for communication. If the character of pupils is introverted, teaching development will be a difficult problem.

Pair work and group work present ways of organizing the class while teaching speaking. The teacher's responsibility is to choose a suitable communicative activity depending on what is going to be practiced either fluency or accuracy and organize the pupils into pairs or groups. In some activities such as role plays and guessing games, pair work is essential. On the other hand, discussions and debates require group work and enable the pupils to express their opinions on a given topic within the group. After that, the spokesman of each group notifies the rest of the class about the conclusion they have reached. This may lead to a following discussion among groups and if the topic is amusing, the speaking lesson seems to be enjoyable for both pupils and the teacher, too.



Any game should be based on generally accepted educational principles and tactics. Educational games should be based on educational subjects. In the process of games, the student is more interested in this activity than in a regular lesson and works freely. There are many reasons for pair and group work to be used in the lessons. First of all, they provide the pupils with a lot more practice than working as a whole class. Pupils also feel more comfortable to speak to one or two people rather than the whole class and the teacher. Moreover, speaking to just a few people is closer to real-life situations.

Pair and group work allows each pupil to work for his or her small group or pair. The teacher is no more considered the only source of information but the pupils learn from each other. This creates opportunities for learners' knowledge to be shared. In order to be successful, learners need to become accustomed to using English without the teacher's permanent support. Therefore, working in pairs or groups helps them to build up their independence and confidence for further conversations. The advantages of pair and group work can be noticeable not only from the learner's but also the teacher's point of view. It provides the teacher with more time to work with weaker pupils and encourage them, by participating in a role play or discussion, to communicate. Teachers can also benefit from a great availability of different communicative activities being offered in bookshops and on the internet nowadays. The variety of materials for pair or group work speaking practice is praised by most of them and their use has proved to be very efficient for speaking skill improvement.

Slight disadvantages of pair and group work.

However efficient and useful pair and group work is, it may sometimes cause little problems while practicing speaking. The noise belongs to these obstacles the teachers have to overcome during lessons. Usually the pupils themselves are not disturbed by the noise; it is more noticeable to the teacher observing pairs or groups. However, the noise created by pair and group work demonstrates learners' engagement in a speaking task and gives the teacher visual evidence of pupils' involvement. Considering this, the success in working in pairs or groups depends mainly on the pupils' and the teacher's approach.

The difficulty is to control the whole class during a communicative activity. To stop activity getting out of control, it is important to give the pupils clear instructions, define the speaking task clearly and set up a routine, so that pupils accept the idea of working in pairs or groups and know exactly what to do.

Although there are some disadvantages of ELT and CLT, they are considered one of the most effective approaches to teach pupils foreign language. These downsides may be decreased after implementing it several times during the lessons. Initially, it may be difficult to adapt this method for both language teachers and pupils. Nevertheless they will find it out a very fascinating method among other methods.



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