

SUBJECT : ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING

CODE : 16ACCEN15

UNIT - II

APPROACHES AND METHODS

Approach:

It is a set of correlative assumptions dealing with the nature of language teaching and language learning.

METHOD :

It is an overall plan for the orderly presentation of language materials based on a selected approach.

Technique:

Technique is implemented. It is a strategy used to accomplish a learning objective. Technique takes place within a classroom between the teacher and the taught.

Direct Method

The roots of the DIRECT METHOD go as far back as the nineteenth century. In 1880, Francois Gouin wrote a book called The Art of Teaching and Learning of Language. According to the book, a foreign language could be taught using a series of simple events. The teacher described each event in the foreign language and set reading and writing tasks on these lessons. The teacher used complete sentences, rather than words and phrases, in the foreign language as input. No translation was used.

PRINCIPLES OF DIRECT METHOD

- * All class room instructions are to be given only in the target language.
- * Only day-to-day vocabulary and sentences are to be taught.
- * Both speech and listening are to be taught
- * correct pronunciation is to be emphasised
- * Grammar is to be taught inductively.
- * New teaching points are to be introduced orally.

Techniques used in direct method

- * Learners are asked to read the material loudly. The teacher by using pictures, gestures or other means to take the meaning of the text. No translation in mother tongue is used.
- * Learners are encouraged to think and communicate in English. They are asked questions and compelled to give answers only in English.
- * Without giving grammar rules, the learner is asked to do it without using mother tongue.
- * No teaching of grammar is allowed
- * Oral communication is basic
- * Testing is done both orally and writing
- * This method is based upon situations or topics.
- * Vocabulary is emphasised over grammar
- * When the teacher reads the passage, the students are asked to write down what they have heard.
- * Pronunciation receives a lot of attention.

THE AUDIO - LINGUAL METHOD

This method was developed mainly in America in the sixties and seventies. The audio-lingual method tried to demonstrate the fact that a language teaching method can be based on rigorous scientific disciplines like linguistics and psychology.

Its focus was on the learner's ability to gain the communicative skills required in everyday discourse, particularly the skills of listening and speaking in the target language.

William Moulton of Princeton University enumerated five slogans which formed the basis of the audio-lingual method.

- * Language is speech, not writing
- * Language is a set of habits
- * Teach the language, not about the language
- * A language is what native speakers say, not what someone thinks they ought to say
- * Languages are different.

Main Features of the audio-lingual Method

- * The audio-lingual method treated each language skills separately: listening, speaking, reading, writing.
- * Language is speech not writing so this method focused primarily on the skills of listening and speaking.
- * The skills of writing and reading were not neglected, but the focus throughout remained on listening and speaking.
- * Dialogues formed the main feature of the audio-lingual syllabus
- * This method provided learners an opportunity to practise, mimic and memorise bits of language
- * Like direct method, the audio-lingual method too tried to avoid the use of the mother tongue, though perhaps not so rigidly.
- * The language laboratory was introduced as an important teaching aid. It gave learners an opportunity to mimic a model and memorise language patterns.

Grammar translation method

It is a way of learning language through a detailed study of its grammar.

The learner then applies the rules of grammar in translating sentences and parts of texts from the mother tongue into the target language and vice versa. The first language is maintained as the reference system in the acquisition of the second language.

FEATURES OF GRAMMAR TRANSLATION METHOD

- * Grammar is taught prescriptively - through the presentation and study of rules.
- * Practice is provided through translation exercises from the mother tongue to the target language & vice versa.
- * A distinctive feature of this method is its focus on translating the sentence.
- * Accuracy is given great importance. The learner is required to attain high standards in translation.
- * Vocabulary is taught through bilingual word lists, reference to dictionaries and memorisation of words and their meanings.

* The method focuses primarily on the skills of reading and writing with little emphasis on listening or speaking.

* The mother tongue of the learner is used to explain new items and make comparisons with their equivalents in the target language.

Syllabus

The syllabus consists of the following:-

- * Eight to ten prose lessons of specified limits
- * Seven to eight poems
- * a non-detailed text, usually an abridged classic
- * grammar
 - i. Parts of speech
 - ii. Passivisation
 - iii. analysis of simple, complex & compound
 - iv. Parsing of words in different types of sentences
- * written work
 - i.) descriptive writing
 - ii.) narrative writing
 - iii.) letters of different kinds