

The creating new
ways that facilitate
language



**ASSIGN
BUSTER**

The process of language acquisition is created by the human being's mind, and has many secrets yet to be discovered, but when the child starts to learn the language? He starts earlier than most of us think, in the mother womb, where he gets acquainted and be familiarized with the sounds surrounding them, and it ends much later in life.

There is an end for learning sound and grammar but vocabulary learning never ends, therefore there is always something new to learn. Many studies were conducted, and theories were made, which include the study of sound, grammar, discourse...etc, to give perspectives to this interesting puzzling phenomenon. All the Languages developed through centuries so did the English language, the change was a result of political, economic, and social reasons.

The English language has its orthography system which has its upsides that help the child to learn the language more easily, and it's downsides that delay the learning process. Knowing the advantages and the disadvantages of the English orthography helped in creating new ways that facilitate language acquisition for children instead of relying on the obsolete methods of rote learning, one of the ways that are used both in schools and at homes is to socialize and interact with children in literacy practices as singing songs, reading stories, and trying to figure out what are the best ways that helped the children to acquire language more easily even at the individual level.

Language acquisition is not confined to monolingual children of any language, nonetheless, monolingual English children. Today three-quarter of the children around the world are born in a bilingual environment and a half-third of world's children are born in a trilingual environment, in consequence,

<https://assignbuster.com/the-creating-new-ways-that-facilitate-language/>

languages and dialects interaction would be omnipresent affecting language coexistence, development, and the way it is taught. Now, literacy has no limitations of its existence in schools, universities or at work, but it becomes part of our everyday life at grocery stores, in the streets, in interacting with people...etc.

Children need to express themselves not just to convey their persona or to prove their individuality, but also to share feelings, emotions, and opinion which integrates them as a part of the society and fulfill their needs to blend in and pursue what they want in life. Language is a mean of communicating and expressing thoughts and ideas. The need of a spoken language emerged first by making sounds that represent letters, syllables, words, sentences that address the auditory system, then letters and words address the optic system of the human being. The necessity of a writing system arose from a need to record events and communicate it with different people across the different period of times. Writing began as pictures associated with words syllables sounds, then more complex writing systems were developed through the world. (Webster, 1806). Learning to speak and write are intertwined, the child starts the process of learning to speak by imitating other people around him, so speech is important in developing language skills, improving vocabulary, receiving and producing language, furthermore, understanding the connection between spoken and written language is essential to organize and deliver the meaning of the message in a more efficient and coherent way.

(www.lob.ca.).

Orthography is “ the accepted way of spelling and writing.”(www.cambridgedictionary.org) or “ The art of writing words with the proper letter according to standard use “(www.meriam-webster.com). In a perfect language, letters correspond with sounds, but the English language is a syllabic language and has its characteristics, it consists of twenty-six letters written from right to left in a sideways top to bottom. In a perfect language every letter corresponds to a sound, however, some of them correspond with more than one sound. (Webster, 1806). The inconsistencies in the English orthography made English a challenging language to acquire even for children who are mono-lingual English native speakers, because many inconsistencies were not just at the level of the letter and their presentation of more than one sound, but also at the level of words. Historically the English language is a dialect; its position was elevated and became an international language spoken by many tongues as a mother language or second or foreign language, it came into contact with English like Latin, German, French, Danish which brought many words into the language and changing other words meaning pronunciation and use, For example: the word colonel has its French and Italian origin, In French, it is coronel, but in Italian it is colonello, now it is written in the Italian way and spelled in the French way.

Building on what is previously written the grapheme-morpheme relationship in English is opaque due to the loan words, which were largely absorbed by the English language causing frozen spelling for a massive amount of words which makes the prediction of its pronunciation and writing very hard.(www.youtube.com) There are other difficulties that face not just children but adults

<https://assignbuster.com/the-creating-new-ways-that-facilitate-language/>

too, for example some sounds stayed or disappeared, the /f/ sound in words like: cough, enough, through or thought, other sounds were lost at the beginning of the words in words like: wrong and knee, some letters become silent when pronounced for e. g. Psychology, Island. Daughter, furthermore words have swallowed syllables e. g. Vegetable is pronounced vegetable (www.

thought.com), and some English letters give many different pronunciations for the same letter for e. g.

the words bear, ear, and heart. The English orthography stabilized through the centuries mostly because of the printing invention by Guttenberg, which helped in the dissemination of English and the role lexicographer who document the pronunciation and writing of millions of words albeit the difference between different standard English like standard American, standard British ... Etc. (www.youtube.

com) The English orthography has its positive sides, the spelling system helps to differentiate homophones in words, for example: alter and altar, morphemes like inflections stay the same with different words e. g. sides, derived. (Allington, Mayor, 2012). By studying language new methods were developed to facilitate learning and teaching English according to many perspectives that were adopted, one of those perspectives is social perspective, which depends on the need and the necessity of the child to express his emotions, needs, and his social identity in the society.

How children acquire language is contentious between the anthropologist, sociolinguists, psychologists... etc, and there are many perspectives of their

<https://assignbuster.com/the-creating-new-ways-that-facilitate-language/>

studies one of them is the social perspective toward how a child acquires literacy and what they do with literacy in their everyday life, and since spoken and written language are closely related literacy is apart of a wider communicative practice, and using literacy in this sense involves exchanging knowledge with a social-network, parents or caregivers who have their essential role the way the children acquire language, and how they get involved in practices that will help the children to gain literacy in a more effective way like storybook reading which studies shown that it supports the child language development, and literacy practice later in life. (www. 2. sfasu. edu) There are many other reasons that affect how child literacy evolved, which involve the culture of his parents, the society that he is surrounded by and the economic status of his parents, the level of their education, the school's environment, the quality of learning, and social class, religion, the position of the child in the family, and how he deals with the difficulties that he faces which is part of the child psychology. The literacy of the child at an early age is strongly connected to learning the alphabet it is the first predictor to his or her reading and writing accomplishments in his first formal schooling process that is intertwined with the parent's role in involving their children in practices on a frequent basis with multiple genres of literacy like children's fiction or adventurous stories, newspapers adds... etc, another key role in acquiring the language in children is their relationship with their parents and their parent beliefs about literacy. Many activities are used by parents at home or in school that facilitate literacy practice as a social activity like engaging children in songs, hymen's books, spelling contests, flash cards and interacting with children in conversation to see how they understand literacy and literary texts, furthermore the need to

encourage children emotionally and physically to learn written and spoken language alter the child perspective toward learning and make it more appealing to him (www. 2. sfasu. edu). The literacy practice of English has also existed in bilingual communities that are affected by religion, social class, school parent's educational level, and the bilingual children may have some impediments in learning English for example if their other language is written from right to left, not from left to right they may start writing English from right to left, or they may think about the subject in one language and write it in another or they may code-switch during writing. In the end every child has the right to have the best of his or her learning experiences, because it affects their whole life and having difficulties in learning and writing should be treated starts as a little human with the ability and the need to express his thoughts, ambition and the right to define himself as somebody with possibilities