

**PROGRAMMED INSTRUCTION: A RESEARCH BASED SYSTEM FOR LEARNING  
LANGUAGE SKILLS**

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**Abstract** - Since programmed instruction is a research based method of teaching which assists the learners to do the task prosperously. This method of teaching presents the learning material in the rational and performance sequences. Language is a behavioral science hence it is a skills oriented. Proficiency is acquired through practice. By learning the rules or acquiring information no one can become an effective communicator. Natural science is content subject, proficiency is acquired in them most probably through intellectual or cognitive environment. Language skills are totally independent of cognition. In the world of communication English language has an important role. Since it is used as a means of communication both for writing and speaking in the daily life. Language skills have different teaching styles and strategies to teach them. By using programmed instruction method of teaching, four capabilities of language can be taught effectively. Language skills can be divided into two productive skills and receptive skills. First one is the production of language which is easier to accept responses from others. The latter one, on the contrary, is used to receive information and getting responses from others. The teacher should give appropriate oral and interactive activities for developing these skills. That will assist the learners to grasp and bring out spoken language for actual and fruitful social content. Nobody can become a perfect speaker of a language without building upon the four foundation of language learning.

**Keywords:** Programmed Instruction, Research based system, rational and performance sequences, natural science, productive and receptive skills.

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## **Introduction**

Programmed Instruction or Programmed Learning is a method of teaching research through which new subject matters are presented to students in a graded sequence of controlled steps that helps the learners to do the task triumphantly. This technique of research is directed by reversed applied psychologist and educators, computer, teaching machine or a kind of textbook etc. This method of teaching presents the learning material in the rational and performance sequences. The wording is either in trivial or great block. Immediately subsequent to each stride comprehensive questions are provided to the learners to examine their levels of understanding. By this means, learners at all phases make reactions, and instantaneous result of knowledge is given.

In the communicative sphere of the world, English has a special and predominant role. Language is used as a tool for communication and interaction verbally in our day to day life, variant forms of language are used both in family and society. Each one of them has varied forms and different teaching styles and strategies. In view of the fact itself, that language is skills oriented, suitable activities should be given by the teacher to develop the language skills. The related exercise at the end of each chapter must be made use to develop those skills. In reality, every learning experience designed by a teacher should be enabled the learners in acquiring certain language skills.

Language skills can be taught through programmed instruction through this method of teaching, the information to be learned is presented in individual section with a correct response to each units required before the learner may advance to the next unit, each and every steps will be monitored in this method of teaching in which every learners must be mastered in each phase before going to the next.

## **Language**

Language is the medium of communication which has the complicated system of conversation. Generally it is agreed that it consists of a set of sounds or written symbols which includes the development acquisition of ideas by means of speech sounds. Different system of communication constitute different language. In fact natural languages are spoken or signed. It is arbitrary, productives, creative, systematic, vocalic, social, non-instinctive and conventional. In other sense, it is a structure of accustomed talk, manual or penned sign through which human

beings can interact, participate, in its culture and express themselves of using these symbols people of a particular country or region can communicate with each other.

### **Importance of English Language**

English is used as an international language. More than twenty percentage of the world population has been using it for communication. Either it is a native, or foreign or second language. As well over 450 millions of people are used it as a mother tongue across the globe. In fact, English is growing as a global language for communication among other language speakers, when it is not used as a principal language. That is, non-native speakers use the language more than double the language used by the native speakers

Great number of people have started using English either as their second language or foreign language. Approximately, 400million people are come under this category. Thus, English is spoken by 700 million people in the world that is next only to the Chinese language. There is a great difference in the distribution of speakers of both languages. When Chinese language is confined particularly to the Chinese sub-continent. English is used in all parts of the world. People those who speak English understand one another across the globe.

Recently, it is interestingly noticed that there is a craze for learning English even among the Chinese speakers. Namely, international politics, trade, commerce and industry are controlled directed through English language. In the world, one out of ten knows English more than 80 % of the world's mail, 60% of world publications, above 65% of world's radio stations, scientific and technical periodicals of the world are published through the medium of English language. It is used as the sixth official languages of the country. It is also used as the lingua franca of the commonwealth countries. Due to the accident of historical events, and fast increase of industrial evolution, development of science, applied science and intercontinental business , ignition in the space, and facility of travels and soon have tumble down of frontiers and imposed nations into close interrelation. Thus, it has become a global language. Since it is an international language, that has created better understanding among the nations of the world, and has been responsible for cultural give and take.

At the national level, English has been observed as a way to the fast development of technical and research based information happened in the globe. As the language in which nearly all contemporary knowledge is accessible, it has been illustrated as pipe line for the current of information in different branches of learning. As the language of science, technology, trade and

commerce, political science, economics and international relations. One of the main reasons behind the importance of English is that it is used as the business and financial language. It is affluent in literature, broad, scientific and mechanical. Many great films of the world, books music, magazine, and newspapers are published and produced in English. With the help of English, people can access to a considerable wealth of enjoyment and to have a prominent cultural comprehension. In fact, English is a window, through which one can see the technological, scientific, commercial, agricultural and literary development are happy in the world, indeed, English is the language of modernization.

By using the key of English, the door of store house of knowledge can be opened. Most of the knowledge is available through this language. In this sense, learners need to be contingent on libraries for their studies latest in formation in any branch of knowledge can be made available and attainable through either English books or English translation of books and it is the language of cultural give and take.

Since English has been used as link language, various people can interact with one another through the medium of English. If English is not used there will be a lag-behind in the higher field of study, and over which connect one with the fellow companion is possible. That is to say, Language allows to be in contact with one another and it permits to interchange the observation and opinions. In the modern age, as a result of globalization, Everyone is closely linked. The use of English language which has overflowed into all walks of life. That being so, it is necessary to focus on why English is such a substantial blessing to all those who use this exclusive language.

In the realm of education, a good clasp of English is necessarily crucial. Correspondingly, its significant in many job opportunities and its position as an international language of academia. Approximately, all national education ministeries, all around the world has mandated the education of English to unavoidable level of appropriateness

### **Productive skills and Receptive Skills**

The four master skills of language also known as receptive skills and productive skills. Reading and Listening are received information and so they are called the receptive skills. At the same time, speaking and writing are known as productive skills or active skills, because they are producing words, phrases, sentences and paragraphs.

Even though the difference between productive(active)skills and receptive skills (passive ) may be seen apparent, which are required very different approaches. The correlation between

receptive skills and productive skills is an intricate one. Skills are complimentary with each other. One set of skills are naturally interdependent with another. That is to say, improving listening skills can afford to the development of speaking skills. Language skills are learned more effectively in classroom or anywhere. Effective communication involves interesting the necessary skills. In addition the non-linguistics features are used such as gestures and sounds while communicating language.

On beginning to learn a new language, learners use to develop their reading skills and listening skills at first, and then obtain productive capability. It is a complex relationship between the two as they all play a supporting role with developing other skills. Reading skills can be a supporting factor to the development of writing, whereas listening can improve speaking fluency.

These master skills of language are also known as the four learning skills of language; which are a set of four capabilities that allow an individual to comprehend and generate spoken language for proper and effective interpersonal communication. Through the effective use of programmed instruction, one can achieve the master skills of a language.

### **Programmed Instruction**

It is a kind of research based system that assists the students to do the assignments flourishingly. This method is controlled by research done by a different applied psychologists and educators. Teaching machine, computer and a particular kind of text will be either in small steps or great block. In this method of learning, immediately after each and every steps of comprehensive questions are given to the learners for testing their level of understanding. After the test, correct answer will be given instantly. That is to say, in each and every stage of learning, learners have to response and knowledge of results promptly given to all learners.

Even though so much research had been already done in this field of learning, it can be said that programmed learning is a stimulus control. That is, materials are constructed according to a pre-determined scheme. The following systems are proposed in the programmed learning. In it the aims of the course are mentioned in terms, which are objective, and can be assessed. A pre-test is given, and inceptive behavior is asserted. Following which, a post test will be given to the learners. As part of developmental testing materials have been tried out and revised according to solution and materials are prepared according to pre-arranged programme. In other sense, it consists of a network of statements and texts, which direct the student to new statements depending on his pattern of errors. It is based on a particular tool which is called teaching

machine. According to the level of learners; materials are arranged in appropriate steps; in fact, the learners have to response in active manner; in order to confirm the responses of learners arrangements are made. In programmed learning, appropriate teaching medium for the students and the subject matters are used. According to the level of learners materials are presented in a self-paced manner.

The two main best known methods/ system of programmed learning can be discussed. One was by Norman Crusader to prepare multiple choice questions, this system was used by him. His system was to set multiple choice questions in the text, and provide feedback for each of the alternatives; which offered in questions chosen to cover mistakes, which students were likely to commit. Actually this system was better known as “branching programming “ because of its diversified solution choice. More popularly known about other technique of programmed learning suggested by the behaviourist B.F Skinner’s programmed Instruction which was to present the material as part of a schedule of boosting in conventional behaviourist manner. The programmed text of Skinner’s theory of behaviourism is the most complete example of his ideas in action; Skinner’s system was commonly called linear programming because of its activities were placed in otherwise continuous text.

At first both methods of teaching were originally presented in machines and later, they were presented in book form. Both system were focused on student centered and they were ways of teaching individual learners who worked at their own pace. The content in both systems was presented to identify issues and iron them out. Both systems emphasized clear learning objectives. Advancement in learning was measured by pre and post texts of equivalent difficulty. Numerous empirical trial has been showed the effectiveness of these research based system. A great number of ideas are gave attention and started to use in other instruction areas.

### **Application of Programmed Instruction for improving language skills**

Programmed instruction was started at first in Greece. Socratus, the Greek philosopher started this special process of instruction. In a small unit he had presented, the portion of facts to his learners. Learners had to grasp the preceding contents. Accordingly, the process of teaching will continue without a pause. These kind of teaching principles were applied in the work of teaching, individually or with learners. By presenting the topic in a small unit and asking question, task etc.

A teacher's assigned duty is to prepare short presentation of the topic, as well as questions and tasks. Depending on the answers, degrees of communication would be adjusted to the abilities of learners.

The primary focus is on distinctive dissimilarities and student's participation. Students may learn at their own pace. Learners are revealed only to the appropriate responses, consequently, feasibility to carryout mistakes are lessened. Programmed instruction definitely will assist the learners to comprehend the given text mainly because the programme will be arranged based on certain goal or purposes according to the level of learners. There will be an ample chance to discuss the matters with teachers and learners as well. Each assignment will be discussed prior to each reading and ask them a few questions. That will help the learners to comprehend the text properly. Hence, it is arranged everything in advance, like goal setting, urge thinking, persuade for note taking and also it will help the learners to recommend visualizing, create mental images, visualizing events, or character .The activities like assigning summary, improving vocabulary, reading for understanding structure and language etc. will be suggested in advance in this programme.

Since everything is prepared in advance in the programmed instruction, learners can face the speaker and maintain eye contact, to become attentive , but in relaxed manner and by keeping an open mind, improve listening skills and Level of communication are depending on the answers would be adjusted to student's abilities. Fast development of science and technology also helped the learners to make easy their learning process. Through well organized programmed instruction, those problem could be overcome.

From the above mentioned things, it is understood that it is to be appreciated the effect of this movement upon the current practical procedures in learning and teaching activities. Like receptive skills, by using programmed instruction, productive skills also can be developed. Speaking partners need to be interesting to speak English,

Like other language skills writing can be improved dramatically through the programmed instruction. Since it is followed step by step instruction in the process of teaching, Learners can acquire skills through the effective use of programmed instruction. It will assist to brush up basic principles of writing and grammar, It also helps to practice regularly. Hence, it is motivated to read more and more effectively writing also can be developed. If the technological improvement is used for making difference in the classification of instruction related with content, structure

etc. It will assist to constitute radical or even significant qualitative changes in curriculum. If the technological improvement is used for making changes in the quality of education, related with content, structure etc. that will assist to compose absolute or even noteworthy approximate difference in curriculum. If the capability is used in the programmed instruction could be made use of for general development of curriculum and as a methodological model. One of the assurances of programmed instruction is that furnishes an attitude and allow people to research at the structure of conscious methodology. One of the significant aspect of programmed instruction is that it casts on the process of curriculum development

Also, it can be used for research teaching, reproduction, redistribution, systematic supply ,reselling, distribution in anyform to any one is expressly forbidden. Also, it is enabled to build cumulative and interrogative knowledge of a learner. Since it is done independently, that can be used for active thinking and allow each individual to progress at his own pace. Hence, the teachers can get to know whether the learners are on the right path or not, while the teaching process is being conducted accordance with the set goal.

Since programmed instruction is personally self-paced and it is verbal, it includes setting objectives, analysis of task, condition for energetic reply to and reaction. Programmed instruction method can be applied to the preparation of television lessons. Instructional television and programmed learning may be considered incompatible with each other. On the contrary, television is basically optical, in response, it is particularly inadequate and in audience participation. The authentication of television programme would seem to demand additional studio time and facilities for repeated viewing of consecutively changed versions of the programme. Experienced teachers can contribute to the shaping of television situation. Even though, there are number of comparisons of programmed and conventional television teaching, no evidence on the relative effectiveness of programmed television instruction. These techniques involve precise statement of teaching objectives, arrangements of assessing tools.

### **Conclusion**

Programmed instruction plays an important role, to get learners of independent in the process of teaching and learning .It assists the learners to broaden and to make prosperous their experiences, to improve at their own way which respects their personal inclination and cognitive capabilities. In this method of teaching system, learners are given more importance than the conventional

classes. This research based system enables the learners to improve their language skills and linguistic skills as well. That is, with the help of this research method, all master skills of a language can be developed. For the effective success of programmed instruction, the co-operation of students and teachers are important along with practical communication between all participants in the programme. Through this method of teaching, teacher can extend support for learner's activities during their work. This method is managed by the teacher in a way to get sufficient space for self organisation of students. Teacher will be more active in administering conditions and materials for the project as well as settling problems which go beyond the abilities of the learners.

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