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## Teaching of English for non-specific purposes in the Arabic Department

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### Abstract

Whether you are in vocational retraining in Algeria, looking for a job abroad, want to evolve in your current position, English is often one of the first criteria to be evaluated. Nowadays, it is important to speak several languages in the job market (which is also increasingly connected to foreign cultures). So start learning as soon as possible! In addition to your mother tongue, it is advisable to master at least two other languages. With at least an upper intermediate level in English, new professional opportunities will open up to you more easily, so that it will guide you naturally to the job of your dreams! The aim of this paper is to shed light on the teaching of English in the Algerian university context in general and the department of Arabic at Tlemcen university in particular.

**Keywords:** English, University, Algeria, specific purposes, maternal language, students' attitudes

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### 1- Introduction.

At school, college, high school, university... Throughout your school career, your brain will be brought to assimilate many skills in the language of Shakespeare. Through academic exchanges, books mostly in English (with sometimes very technical vocabulary and specialized according to the studied field), stays in total immersion or training courses increasingly international (an effective method to discover yourself a little more

as a student...), a good level of English is often required in higher education (and now in high school) to enter an institution or even to obtain your diploma, although your training is not necessarily focused on English (business school, engineers...).

English is widely spoken around the world, and has become a crucial language for travel, study, and staying connected. To the world around us (and to the many films available on your favourite streaming platforms... yes, it's

much better in VOST) and for most of the jobs turned international. It is therefore better to know at least the basics in conjugation, vocabulary and choose a method for mastering the simple rules of grammar of Shakespeare's language.

## **2- Problematic situation**

Nowadays, the ability to speak several languages is essential. Speaking a foreign language increases professional opportunities, helps to establish a real connection with the native speakers of that language and allows you to learn more about different places, cultures and ways of life. In the world today, 6,500 languages are fluent. Among them:

- ❖ why choose to learn English?
- ❖ what is the influence of the mother tongue or maternal language on learning English?

## **3- Teaching of English at university.**

As of the beginning of the school year in September, English will be introduced as a language of instruction at the Algerian university. A ministerial decision that arouses the ire of some, while others see it as a step forward for Algeria with a view to integrating the country's universities into international rankings.

## **4- The Government Policy towards the Teaching of English in all Departments**

It is now a fact. The academic year 2023/2024 will be the official start of learning the English language in higher education. An instruction dated 1 July from the department of Kamel Beddari sealed this orientation. Addressed to the heads of academic institutions, the document enjoins them to comply with the directives of the guardianship in this matter, and

this by putting in place the appropriate mechanisms.

In accordance with the Minister's instructions, and in preparation for the introduction of English as a language of instruction from 2023/2024, you are required to organize meetings in order to constitute the teaching teams according to the subject or module, and this before leaving for vacation," says the instruction. While the program of the final cycle degree theses is not yet completed, the preparation of this new stage in the university curriculum will be a continuous process for both those responsible and the teaching staff.

Each team, whose chairmanship is entrusted to a member of the teaching body, designated or elected, must be composed of teachers of different grades, of which, it is specified, lecturers and assistants in charge of practical work (TP) and supervised work (TD). The supervision of the scheme is

carried out by the National Commission responsible for monitoring and evaluating the training programme for teachers and graduate students in the English language. During the month of July, she will visit university institutions.

It should be remembered that several provisions were made in advance for a better supervision and a progressive introduction of the language of Shakespeare. Last November, the English Language Administration issued a statement announcing the creation of the digital English Language Tele learning platform, The following are the main points of reference: 'In the context of strengthening English language learning in higher education institutions and monitoring the evaluation of this training approach, the minister responsible for the university has sent correspondence to the presidents of the regional conferences of universities, including the main orientations

and indicators for the census of teachers. The sector intends to train by the end of the academic year 2022/2023.” This approach involves the training of at least 80% of science and technology teachers and 100% of those in social sciences and humanities.

On January 2, the Minister of Higher Education launched the platform. The latter was developed with the American university Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). 'Algeria is the only African country to have this digital platform, with support from MIT University,' said the head of the sector. It states that 30,000 teachers will be trained online, and will be able to reach B2 or even C1 levels.

To study abroad, it is recommended to have a good or very good level of English. Certificates, such as the TOIEC or IELTS, validate your language skills. You still have to choose the most suitable for your project

and your destination. A quick overview.

Most of the time, universities and schools abroad will ask you to attach an English certificate to your application. TOEFL, TOIEC or IELTS... Different degrees exist and are widely recognized internationally. Among the US tests, the TOEFL is the most recommended English test in higher education, while the TOIEC is more observed in the professional environment. Some universities may, however, recognize this certificate. The IELTS and Cambridge exams (B2 First, C1 Advanced...) are certificates issued by British organisations.

## 5- Specificities

The traditional model of higher education in the social sciences (law, economics, management, administration) is oriented towards the reproduction of knowledge. The Commission's proposal for a Council Directive on the protection of workers

against exposure to certain substances is therefore not based on an analysis of practical needs.

The observed result is dissatisfaction among students, the failure to take into account of English by some training managers and a finding of insufficiency among professionals. The perspective tends to make the different academic actors aware of the distinction between know-how and specialized knowledge, and that the mastery of this. The Commission will be responsible for this. An implementation of this approach is illustrated and a balance sheet is drawn. The paper concludes with a strategic reflection at the political level of the institution.

## **6- Influences of Maternal Language.**

The mother tongue (now LM) is characterized by the fact that it is acquired naturally. It was born from the birth of the individual, he uses it throughout his life and in all areas. According to

Vygotsky, “learning to LE occurs unconsciously and is acquired spontaneously by the child through experiences caused by contact with his immediate environment. The European Commission has foreign language (now LE) begins with awareness and the existence of an intention.”

According to the etymology, mother tongue of Latin “mater”, that is, mother, is the native language is the language of the individual. In terms of chronology, mother tongue is the first language learned and the one used by an individual in their communication. In language didactics: mother tongue is the source language that is to say The learner uses it in learning.

According to the dictionary of linguistics: It is said that there is interference when a bilingual subject uses in a target language has a phonetic, morphological, the loan and the layer are often due, in origin, to interferences.

But the interference remains individual and involuntary.

The problem of interference is considered by some foreign language didactics as related to that of mistakes. In the mixed form, what is taken into account is what comes from the target language and not what comes from the source language. They propose to reason not in terms of interferences, but in terms of intermediate/approximate learning systems». According to little Robert: «Phenomenon resulting from the superposition of coherent vibrations of the same nature and frequency».

The phonetic interference is the influence of the mother tongue on another language at the level of pronunciation, it allows to identify the foreign speakers and according to, Michel Blanc: “there is a phonetic interference when a bilingual, uses in the active language, sounds of the other language, it is very common among the learner of the second language, especially

when learning is done in adolescence or adulthood; it often identifies a foreign speaker as such” So the interlocutor uses a sound of his language to produce orally another sound in another language for example the phenomenon [s]et[z]; say (observe) instead of (observe) and because of the difference between the Arabic and French phonological system training, we find a number of interferences in the Algerian context.

Lexical interference is the use of a lexical unit of the mother tongue in the foreign language for a bilingual interlocutor. Indeed, it is not necessary to confuse lexical interference and borrowing because the first is the use of words from the source language in an unconscious way in the target language while the second is with social fact that is, the learner takes words from the source language and borrows them in the new language but he takes into consideration the rules of his language

Grammatical interference is the result of poor knowledge of foreign language rules, so the individual uses syntactic structures; the order, gender as a morphological interference, determinants, prepositions, negation... etc. From his mother tongue in the foreign language: For example: My son was born in Paris (preposition), a red flower (order), he has a watch (the agreement), tomorrow he has more (the time). So the grammatical interference is the use of structures from the source language in the target language.

### **7- Attitudes of Students**

Linguistic representations are expressed through beliefs, values and stereotypes that the speaker may have about certain languages or language varieties (Jodelet, 2003). In Algeria, the representations on languages differ from one social group to another. The Algerian situation is very complex, as languages live in a socio-political context that is constantly changing.

Moreover, the gap between the language policies conducted by the state and the reality of the field is wide. The study of linguistic representations and attitudes in this context requires the establishment of a specific epistemological framework. Concepts born from foreign situations cannot always be in line with the Algerian terrain, which is characterized by a particular multilingualism (Dourari, 2002). In Algeria, people speak the dialect of Arabic in situations of formal communication

Since in this article we propose to produce a series of reflections on linguistic attitudes, it becomes essential to start by defining them. Even if from the etymological point of view the term attitude originally refers to posture or pose, today psychological orientation has imposed itself on the purely physical sense. Among the many existing definitions, one of the most widely agreed and cited is

that proposed by Ajzen (1988:4), which is remarkable for its brevity and clarity: “willingness to respond favourably or unfavourably in relation to an object, person, institution or event”.

The concept of attitude is very popular and is used repeatedly in a wide range of fields of study, which according to Oskamp (1991: 3), is explained by six fundamental reasons:

- ❖ It is a shorthand term: a simple attitude (for example, the desire to learn French) can summarize very different behaviours (enrol in a course, read literature and the French press, consult web pages in that language, etc.).
- ❖ An attitude can be seen as the cause of a person’s behaviour towards another person or object. It is a concept that helps to explain consistency in the behaviour of a person, because one attitude can help to explain many different actions.
- ❖ Attitudes are important in themselves, regardless of their relationship to a person’s behaviour.

The attitudes that an individual show towards other individuals, institutions and social issues reflect how he perceives the world around him, Which makes them worthy of study.

- ❖ This is a concept that is relatively neutral and acceptable to many schools of thought.
- ❖ It is an interdisciplinary concept, which constitutes a subject of study for many and varied fields of research, such as sociology, sociolinguistics, social psychology, anthropology, foreign language acquisition, bilingual education, and even politics.

#### 8- **Suggestions.**

Do you teach the English language as a teacher in schools, high school or university? If you want to teach the language of Shakespeare even more effectively, this article will give you some proven tips. 5 things to remember when teaching English at any level and age:

1. Promote the teaching of English grammar

As an English teacher, you know that knowledge of English grammar is fundamental. Unfortunately, students sometimes hesitate to learn it. Grammar is essential because:

- ❖ It allows to speak better English by refining the construction of his sentences.
- ❖ It gives the necessary language tools to write correctly.
- ❖ His mastery strengthens the fluency of the student in the language of Shakespeare, and this, in class as elsewhere.
- ❖ Many English teachers, from school teachers to university teachers, have noticed that students who are able to explain a grammar rule to their peers gain confidence.

In class, do not hesitate to include your students in the teaching of English grammar. This will give them the opportunity to improve

their language level. And in case of error or confusion, you can take the opportunity to have the unknown rule reviewed and help your students improve their skills. In short: there are only advantages! Giving English lessons should not be boring. It is a time of exchange and sharing! So say goodbye to classical grammar methods and welcome the playful elements.

#### 9- **Conclusion.**

English may not be the most widely spoken language in the world, but it is certainly the most influential! It's been a long time now that the English language is surfing on the wave of globalization and technology, dominating the world like no other language before. Some linguists even go so far as to say that she will never lose her throne as queen of languages. Not only is it spoken by about 1.5 billion people, but it is the international language of communication in many sectors.

Today, English is the main language of business, science, literature, politics, diplomacy and many other fields and sectors. It is also the world's language of communication, with more than 55 countries using it as a second language.

As it has evolved, English has indeed become a "global" language. Isn't its history fascinating and complex? From the mishmash of Germanic dialects from its early days to its current role as a global language, English has certainly become the most influential language in the modern world.

Mark Warschauer, a professor at the University of California at Irvine, said, "English has become everyone's second language. To the point that almost everywhere in the world, being educated means knowing English." He's not wrong, Dad. From primary schools to multinational companies, English has become the language of many countries, peoples and cultures. That's why

it is more important than ever to have a strong knowledge of English in order to develop self-confidence and strengthen your international skills.

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