Original Research Article

On the Innovative Strategies for Optimizing the Teaching Structure of English Class in Higher Vocational Education

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Abstract: The popularity of higher education is getting higher and higher, and higher vocational education has also received widespread attention. However, under the circumstances of high attention, it has also exposed many problems in its education. As a compulsory course in higher vocational colleges, English can not only improve the language environment of students, but also a medium for understanding the culture of another country. But the most important point is that higher vocational English teaching should help students find employment, reach the level required by employment standards, and enhance its competitiveness in the market. This article analyzes the characteristics and current situation of higher vocational English teaching in today’s society, explains the significance of higher vocational English teaching reform, and conducts a detailed research on this curriculum system, excavates its potential problems, and proposes reform methods for higher vocational English teaching.

Keywords: Innovative; Teaching Structure; English Class

1. Introduction

Compared with other elective courses, higher vocational English teaching belongs to the more important category. It is a typical demonstration subject based on the guiding ideology proposed by the Ministry of Education[1]. Therefore, we should know that the way of cultivating higher vocational English teaching is based on market demand. Our country hopes to cultivate a group of highly qualified technical professionals. Therefore, we should innovate the higher vocational English teaching model, adopt diversified teaching methods, and pay more attention to the cultivation of students’ employability rather than just empty talk and not solve the problem. Therefore, we should speed up the reform of traditional higher vocational English teaching methods and implement the reforms.

2. On the advantages of developing higher vocational English teaching method innovation

In the practice of higher vocational English, adding modern technology to create a new teaching environment is also an inevitable choice for the road of higher vocational English innovation. On the whole, in higher vocational English teaching, it is urgent to innovate its teaching methods[2].

2.1 Enhancing the classroom participation of vocational students

In higher vocational English classroom teaching, we can use information technology to give full play to the advantages of big data and analyze the hobbies of different vocational students. In addition, we must also understand the learning ability and English foundation of the vocational students, and in the classroom, it attracts the attention of students, allows students to devote themselves to English learning, gives full play to their enthusiasm for learning, improves learning efficiency, and makes students feel the sense of learning achievement.

2.2 Build an equal and harmonious teacher-student relationship

Teachers need to actively change their roles and create a new classroom model. Teachers should re-recognize the dominant position in the practice of informatization teaching, no longer present the embarrassing situation of talking to themselves in the classroom, and give the initiative to speak to students.

According to the needs of the new classroom, the role of teachers and students is changed, so that students become the protagonists of the classroom, and teachers only play their teaching auxiliary role, which can also create an environment for students’ independent learning.

2.3 Getting rich classroom teaching resources

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In the process of higher vocational English information teaching, today’s teachers can obtain more English resources from the network platform. Online courses such as micro-classes and MOOCs broaden the field of traditional classroom teaching and enable students to have more abundant educational resources.

2.4 Improving teaching evaluation mechanism

Under traditional teaching, we find that students learn more passively, which is not conducive to the cultivation of students’ learning enthusiasm and cannot guarantee their learning efficiency; while informatization teaching uses the network and big data analysis to achieve control of the student’s learning process, and thus targeted solutions. Students can also evaluate teaching according to their individual learning situation, form effective feedback, and achieve a benign interaction with the teacher.

3. Innovative strategies of English teaching in higher vocational education

3.1 Actively change the concept of English teaching

Firstly, teachers are required to change their educational and teaching concepts, understand what kind of talents the company needs, and use this as a basis to formulate detailed teaching plans so that students can be competitive and quickly adapt to the working environment when they are employed. Second, the implementation of teaching reform requires the use of multiple forces, for example, English education experts compile textbooks based on market needs. The third, to set up clear teaching goals, teachers should train applied talents, formulate teaching plans through comprehensive consideration of students’ majors and employment factors, and try to match the requirements of talents for college students and enterprises.

3.2 Clarify the curriculum goals for vocational competence

Throughout the process of innovative higher vocational English teaching, teachers should be more clear about their teaching goals, and should strengthen the cultivation of students’ practical application ability, instead of cultivating students to pass the corresponding final exams or examinations, and pay more attention to students’ professional English ability and application in real situations. Therefore, teachers should actively change the past teaching of only teaching English knowledge or just passing the exam as the purpose of teaching, and shift the teaching focus to the cultivation of practical ability.

3.3 Optimize the English classroom system

If you want to innovate in higher vocational English teaching, you should actively optimize the English classroom system, keep up with the pace of the market, and make the cultivation of professional ability the main purpose of the English classroom system. The specific optimization measures are as follows:

| Table 1 Specific optimization measures |
|--------------------------------------|
| Add practice links | Deepening students’ contact with society can also enable them to have a deeper judgment on their own career plans, so as to prevent students from being limited to books without practice. |
| Supplement cross-cultural knowledge | Supplements British and American culture and Western literature, allowing students to gain effective development in cultural knowledge and Western perspectives. |
| Enhance basic English skills | To be able to effectively combine the input and output of their English to achieve a balance between the two. |
| Use diverse teaching methods | Through a variety of means, effectively improve students’ English practice ability. |

3.4 Innovate English teaching methods
Firstly, teachers should improve the traditional English teaching methods, keep up with the pace of the times, and teach based on the improvement of students’ English application ability instead of taking exams. For example, situational teaching methods can be adopted in classroom teaching to allow students to speak English to form effective output, which can consolidate the knowledge of students and create a good classroom environment.

Secondly, a private customized teaching plan is required. Because the English foundation of higher vocational students may be quite different, in teaching, teachers need to combine the different situations of each student to implement teaching at different levels, so as to ensure that every student can keep up with the progress. In addition to the individual differences of students, it can also promote students’ learning as a whole.

The third, teachers need to be able to optimize and update corresponding curriculum teaching in time. Only by actively improving teaching methods and absorbing teaching resources from multiple sources can teaching innovation be realized, so that graduates can quickly enter their jobs, shoulder their job responsibilities, and achieve what they can use. Combine with what you have learned.

4. Why should vocational English teaching be innovative and reformed?

According to an incomplete survey, as of 2017, the number of college graduates in my country has reached 8.76 million, of which graduates from higher vocational colleges account for more than half. Moreover, affected by the market environment, higher vocational college students are compared with undergraduates. Said that they face greater employment pressure, which is also related to their education. In addition to vocational English teaching for students to take exams, it should also pay attention to the practicality of English in today’s general environment. The country’s requirements for talents are also getting higher and higher, and the benchmark for its professional capabilities is constantly improving.

5. Conclusion

In summary, on the one hand, we should combine information technology with higher vocational English teaching. On the other hand, higher vocational English teachers should innovate their teaching methods, actively explore in the process of English teaching, research methods to improve teaching effects and test their effectiveness. Teachers also need to keep pace with the times and constantly update their educational concepts in order to develop new types of higher vocational English training strategies. According to the characteristics of higher vocational students, improve the classroom structure, innovate teaching methods, and adopt a variety of teaching methods to promote the continuous development and progress of higher vocational English.

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