

## VARIOUS ROLES OF A TEACHER IN AN ENGLISH LANGUAGE CLASSROOM

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### **Abstract:**

The main objective of the present study is to understand the roles a teacher has to carry out in teaching the English language. There is no doubt that the various roles of a language teacher in second /foreign language context with particular reference to the Indian one, teaching and learning have developed gradually over the years. Each and everyone all over the world decided to study foreign language English as a second language. Even many countries include English as their second language to learn. Today, in the Global World, most of the communication is done in English, as the medium of teaching. As everybody knows that it is comprehensive or universal language, where the present Globe form a number of enduring relationship, is forging ahead by connecting others for carrying out their mellifluous relationships. In English language teaching, particularly, when English is connected to Classroom Teaching, English plays a very significant role in engrossing all the students' attention. To develop good communication skills or to be skilful in communication skills, one has to acquire expertise in all four skills. That is Listening Verbal Communication, and Inscription and Interpretation skills. Before the students acquire all these four skills He/She has to develop interest towards the Subject or Language. In this regard, the Teacher plays a very important role in attracting the student's attention by creating interest among the students. A Teacher should play various roles like Learner, Facilitator, Organizer, Resource, Assessor, Manager, Evaluator Guide, and Role Model. A Teacher before teaching the students has to first place herself/himself as a learner and think standpoint from the learners perspective. In doing so, the students' interest can be captured. In the classroom, Teacher roles can talk about with learners as a part of student preparation, at the same time with other characteristics of the curriculum. Learners can imagine about what are the roles they wish for their teacher, how this inclination fits in with other aspects of the students' learning methods, and why the teacher chooses each and every role.

**Keywords: English:** Language Teaching, Class Room Teaching, Teacher Roles, Learner, Facilitator, Organizer, Resource, Assessor, Manager, Evaluator and Guide, Role Model.

As English becoming a world, language is more and more important in our culture, thereby affecting the English Classroom and the learners. The entire process of teaching English has been changed during the last decades and so have the students. Students already started learning their first language whereas English as a second language. Educating is just one of the various things, and as a teacher one has to be flexible to perform, Learner, Facilitator, Organizer, Resource, Assessor, Manager, Evaluator Guide and Role Model, all these roles of a teacher enable students to learn the language. Therefore teacher is not only to educate students what the English language is all about, and how it works, but also the usage of it and especially communication skills.

While learning a second language every student has a different ability. Some grasp it quickly and easily develop to it, others struggle and have difficulties which lead to demotivated and lack of interest. This could lead to the question what an English teacher has to do, in order to teach students successfully. At the present time, teachers are supposed not only to educate but also to create a suitable situation and environment for learners. A Teacher is, in the Classroom who has the proficiency, tools and information necessary to edify young students. In this rapidly growing world, there are ample changes in teaching approaches along with learning strategies. Other than parents, Teacher plays very crucial roles in developing students' interest towards a subject or language.

In education systems, there have been a great number of changes. As part of the changes, the roles of a teacher will also change. Therefore it is necessary for a language teacher to perform these roles in the classroom to fully achieve the best learning development.

### **Definition of the Term Role**

“The function or Position that stabilizes has or is expected to have in an organization, in society or in a relationship”. (The Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary)

The role has defined as "an actor's part; one's function, what person or thing is appointed or expected to do". Whether we do realize it or not, we are all acting in roles in many situations on a daily basis and while doing so we are all confronted with expectations, by that means, one can act in various roles.

The term “role” as Dornegi and Murpher in 2003 points out, it is a technical term “which originally comes from Sociology and refers to the shared expectation of his/her as an individual should behave. In other words, roles describe what people are supposed to do”. (p.109). A role is a person's function, that part taken by him/her in life or in any activity. It is the way in which he/she is involved in, and what influence him/her on an activity or a situation. For example, a manager at work acts in an authoritarian role, as a captain in his football team and loving father at home. These roles vary from each other in a way of choice: a manager can choose whether he wants to act as a manager or not to, but his child will always be conscious of him as a father. The manager doesn't have to be the captain of his team but by providing happiness or fulfilling this role his team members expect him to act in appropriate manner. The same happens when one chooses to be a teacher (Wright

3). When one chooses to be a teacher, David Nyman defines “a teacher's role as expected to play in carrying out learning tasks as well as the social and interpersonal relationships between the students”. Teacher roles state the position that the teacher has in a society, in schools, colleges and classrooms, and the ways they are expected to behave in a relationship with students.

### **Various Roles of a Teacher**

It is important to mention that when one chooses to be a teacher, roles are not directly related to the ‘behaviour’ of the teacher. It aims to develop his/her methods of teaching. Teacher roles can be seen as active or passive are related to each other. In English language teaching, a teacher fulfils many roles with its own characteristics and various aims, to work differently. The following figure shows the various roles of a Teacher in English language teaching.

#### **Teacher as Learner**

The first and most important role by a teacher is a learner. The teacher has to continue learning and following educational strategies and new approaches. For a teacher, a Teaching and Learning is the continuous process and in which strategies may differ with the fast-moving generations. Despite the fact that we find many changes in the education system, but the roles of a teacher will remain the same but with small changes. The teacher’s roles are to convince the students that education fulfils the need and learning in the Classroom. In order to increase the effectiveness of learning a teacher has to think standpoint from the learners’ perspective before he/she plans to have Interaction with the students. When a teacher plans according to the learners’ perspective and starts teaching the language, students can receive the information without any hesitation grasping the English language.

#### **Teacher as Facilitator**

It is very important that students should come to know that their teacher’s concern about them and in all aspects the teacher should become the best facilitator to the students. As a Facilitator, she/he has to support and direct students in learning the language for themselves as a self-explorer. It is the duty of a Teacher, should develop the best learning environment which turns over the students ‘life in societal, intellectual and linguistic occurrences. As a Facilitator, a teacher should create a strong foundation for the students’ personal growth.

#### **Teacher as Organizer**

Teacher as an organizer is the most important and difficult role he/she has to play. The teacher has to look at planning and structuring of learning activities as fundamental to success in language teaching and learning. The success of many activities depends on good organization and on the students knowing exactly what are they to do.

#### **Teacher as Resource**

The teacher acts as a resource by helping the students he/she provides additional information or simply talk to the students providing the resource of the language. The teacher is a kind of walking resource centre offers help in needed or providing students’ with whatever they lack when performing communicative activities in the language. The teacher must make him/her available so that the students can consult him/her when they wish.

**Teacher as Assessor:**

As a Teacher, assessing is one of the significant roles for bringing out students knowledge by giving continuous feedback. The role of a teacher is not complete just by teaching the language. Assessing is the essential role of making students learning perfectly. A Teacher before assessing a student he/she has to first assess their own conclusions, as to what extent the students will be benefitted with their correct assessment. These assessments can be carried out, by the role of a teacher in English Language Teaching, conducting quizzes, by giving some tasks, through verbal feedback etc. Assessment makes a teacher plan for his/her future teaching techniques and in guiding the students to master in the language.

**Teacher as Manager**

The role of a Teacher as a manager is vitally important in managing a class. A Teacher in advance has to develop his/her course plan and syllabus well, regarding handling the class within the specified time, covering academics as well as interpersonal skills of the students with various techniques, which is obviously a right path to a practical approach. Perfect Classroom management by a Teacher using the major mechanisms will definitely lead to the success of teaching-learning methods.

**Teacher as Evaluator**

**As each and every one is aware that evaluation plays a prominent role in a teacher's success.** Evaluation is a personal process, which is related to academics. While evaluating the students a teacher has to be an effective evaluator. In order to do justice to a students' career. Fair and True evaluation should be done by a Teacher. Students have a wide scope of learning through the mistakes committed. As an evaluator teacher should also be focused on the areas of competence rather than on the weaknesses and each and every student should adhere to positive expectations.

**Teacher as Guide**

The teacher acts as a guide, provides advice, guidance and helps students clarify ideas. Teacher as a guide needs to identify students who are having problems and difficulties in learning the language and also offer individual counsel to students who need it. By performing these Teacher becomes an ideal guide in shaping the future of the students'.

**Teacher as Role Model**

The last role of a teacher is the role model, which goes beyond the classroom influencing the students throughout their whole life. Honesty, affection and fairness, for example, are not only learned from parents but also from a teacher. For that reason, a teacher must be fully aware that his/her behaviour, in general, has a great impact on the personal development of his/her students.

### Conclusion

These roles of a teacher is primarily an occupational role, in language teaching students need a teacher who can be flexible to understand their needs-not one who will direct them or manipulate or decide for them how they will learn, but one who will encourage, build self-confidence and guide and create enjoyment while learning the language. Not all the teachers are aware of all these roles as few of the teachers would play all these roles while others played fewer roles. Thus, training needs to be enforced to the teachers so they utilize these roles, enable the teachers with key and unique techniques to handle the language learners.

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