

## Effective Ways of English Language Teaching and Learning through Poetry

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**Dr.Ch.Krishna Murthy**, M.A., M.Ed., Ph.D, UGC (NET), Senior Lecturer in English,  
HoD, D.K.Government College for Women (A), Nellore, A.P

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**Abstract:** The learning of English has become inevitable for students now-a-days. For career prospects by way of promotions, learning of English with correct accent has become obligatory. For the aspirants of foreign travels and tours, English proves to be an asset. The idea that it is very difficult to learn English is far from truth. In fact, every language has some important grammatical structures to build sentences with desired meaning. The main requirement for any teacher while teaching the language is to create interest among the learners towards that language. If this is lacking, their efforts go waste. Moreover, they should love what they teach. In my paper I have tried to kindle interest among the student community towards writing and understanding verses with musical sound, which gives solace to our mind. A little bit of practice will help us a lot to create many verse structures.

**Keywords:** career prospects, obligatory, far from truth, desired meaning, grammatical structures, kindle interest, solace

**Introduction:** “Words are alive, and like all living things they grow, they change, they meet honour and disaster. We must understand that it is the words which stand for all the poet has felt, for all that has passed through his imagination” ( Scott, Preface).

For the process of effective learning or teaching, the teachers can adopt several methods. There are many ways to create interest among the learners. Through small stories, jokes, anecdotes, incidents of day-to-day life, news paper articles, advertisements etc, we can generate in them a taste for learning English. Literary and critical terms help the students in their career growth.

In my view, a thorough preparation is most necessary for teachers to succeed in learning. They should update skills in teaching and go to the class like a prepared soldier. Though it is an old lesson which they had taught many times earlier, they should attend the class with innovative ideas of teaching. Otherwise, their teaching looks passive and insipid. The teaching should be like temptation. “ I can resist everything except temptation”, says Oscar Wilde. The modern teachers should replace the word ‘temptation’ with ‘teaching’ in Wilde’s quotation.

The teachers of English need to be extra careful when compared with subject teachers. 'Poetry', Dr. Levis once said, 'can communicate the actual quality of experience with a subtlety and precision unapproachable by any other means' (Scott, Preface). So the writer, in prose or verse makes demand upon the reader beyond the plain meaning of the words themselves. Here I have made an attempt to show how effectively we can teach English through poetry.

**Exposition of Thought:** Robert Frost declared, 'Writing free verse is like playing tennis with the net down'. I have given some verses that I have written as part of "Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav" keeping in view of the freedom struggle and the role played by the youth. Having been inspired by the leaders of the nation, people in lakhs moved forward and dared the foreign rulers. These poetic lines can best be used for teaching poetry to the students effectively.

1. Of days, that rolled in pain of treason  
Of people, fought with thought and reason
2. Day and night, for the Nation's fight  
Dreaming high, with no more fright
3. Drifted apart, though in views  
Worked aloft, with coded cues
4. High and low, with open minds  
Big and small, of different kinds
5. Free from prejudice, free from fear  
Of loss of life, for the way is clear
6. Think not of life or wife, but knife  
alone

Duty with gaiety, to travel the path  
shown

7. A tide of protest, against the brute  
A wave of dismay, to dare the shoot
8. The vision of freedom, the mission  
of fight  
With a single aim, to drive off the  
white
9. Young and old, strong and weak  
Men and women, proud and meek
10. Fought for a cause, for truth they  
stood  
Made them (the white) quit, and  
leave for good
11. Alas! A heavy loss, Mother India  
wept  
For many youth that slept
12. The roar of guns, the shower of  
bullets  
Are things of the past, keep them in  
gullets
13. Think of now with the spirit, drawn  
from the past  
Be good and do good, playing your  
role so vast  
Forget the gun, recall the slogan,  
"Yes, I can"

\*Further, we can see a beautiful rhyme in the following lines I composed. After we got freedom, what type of growth our freedom fighters wished to have, and how far it was realised can be seen in the following poetic lines.

14. The fight of the Nation, a lot of  
inspiration  
The light (Freedom) of the Nation,  
the end(result) of aspiration

15. The story of the Nation, drawn no flak  
The glory of the Nation, shone in the flag
16. The slit in the Nation, a bit of emotion  
The split of the Nation, a hit to elation
17. Chains are cut, dreams are met  
With no 'but', plans are set
18. Think afresh, out of the box  
Think aloft, without craft
19. Ground is set, for a round of changes  
Plans are made, that varied in ranges
20. Efforts are taken, to reduce the deaths  
Measures are taken, to control the births
21. Bridges are built, to ease the travel  
Dams are built, that looked a marvel
22. Steps are taken, to waken the youth  
Schools are open, to beacon the truth
23. Colleges in the country, committed to growth  
Varsities in cities, rounded the youth
24. Lawyers, teachers, doctors and all  
Played their parts, to keep us tall
25. Farmers, labourers, workers and all  
Lent their hands, to stop us from fall
26. Think of the poor, think of the needy  
Think of the cure, not being greedy
27. Work and work, for food and cloth  
Growth and growth, no room for sloth
28. Progress, progress, nowhere regress  
Marvellous, marvellous, everywhere progress

29. Our Nation's story, full of glory  
Our Nation's glory, reveals a story.

### On 'Woman'

In view of **"International Women's Day"** on 8th March, 2022, I wrote a poem that I want to give here for practice work.

1. 'Woman' is a word so sweet to hear  
'Woman' is the power that stands so near!
2. Half is she in God's creation  
Half is her mate in His Citation!
3. Man and woman are two hemispheres  
Equal are they to live with no fears!
4. Woman is smooth in body and mind  
Made as such by God so kind!
5. With purity, amity and pity she lives  
For the values we need that she gives!
6. Woman in the fields, woman in the factories  
Woman in schools, colleges and varsities!
7. Hike in number, at the ruling places  
Like is the case with the judging places!
8. All the fields, filled they wisely  
Laurels they brought, proved them greatly!

9. This that these those here  
there everywhere  
Their brand is seen and  
equal nowhere!
10. No such phrase as 'second to  
one'  
She deserves the phrase as  
'second to none'!

### Spelling Practice with confusing words

We can make the class very interesting by framing sentences with beautiful rhyme and rhythm. They are useful for spelling practice as well as to distinguish some words from others by showing the variations in spelling. I think this is very useful to the students with rural background. Please understand that each line is specific and there is no continuity of thought.

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1. **Listen** to the **lesson** with care to **lessen** your burden.
2. **Speak**, and your **speech** should be free from faults.
3. **Read** the **story** of the **red reed** in the first **storey**.
4. **Write** about your **rights** with your **right** hand **rightly**.
5. **Copy** the lines with **will**, **while** sipping **coffee** for a **while**.
6. **See**, how they are **sawing** the long log by the **sea**.
7. **Come here and hear** the scream of the **hare** with its **hair** straight and **ears** open.
8. Do you **Know** that he never says '**no**' and that **his** book **is** with me.
9. I saw him going to his **farm** after filling the **form**.

10. He **lighted** the lamp when there was **lightning**, and seen **lightening** his burden.
11. They **hurt** the **hart** without **heart** and chased it to the **last** but **lost** it.
12. The cows will **butt** you when you get nearer, **but** do not harm if you stay here.
13. O ' **dear** ! I **dare** say, **here** is the **hare**, not the **deer**.
14. Do you **buy** sweets **by** the side of the road? Don't do it.
15. **Meet** my brother first, think not of the sweet or the **meat** in the treat.
16. And I shall come **later**. Think about the former but not the **latter**.
17. **Breath** is **life**. So, **breathe** deeply and **live** happily.
18. Stick to **morals** and never **lose morale** while fighting. It leads to a great **loss**.
19. Don't **lose** your temper. I bought this **loose** shirt in KLM cloth show room.
20. **Grieve** not for their poverty. Help them to solve their **grievances**.

### Conclusion:

"You'd better not look down,  
If you want keep flying" says the great  
B.B. King. This is an inspirational quote.

English learning can be made easy by the teachers in the elementary school itself. The fear created at that time becomes deep-rooted and it takes a lot of time for the teachers for its removal. It also needs a lot of patience on the part of the teachers. They should remove their fear first. This can be done by making them read the English

news papers daily and write a few lines of their own about what they have read. Gradually, they will get used to it and write without fear. Thus the role of English teachers as facilitators is vital.

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