

deprived of this privilege. The latter group will be dependent and ineffective and must always draw from limited and devitalized material, while the former group will be independent and effective and always keep themselves well-informed. More important, the well-informed graduates will have a greater beneficial effect on The development of Iran.



economical- economically- economics- home economics- econo-
mist- economize- econmy- agricultural economy.

It is not out of place if I add that when I taught English as a second language at Tehran University College of Agriculture (1957-1962), the English articles that I used not only improved my student's English Knowledge, but also made it possible for me to edit them and compile a standard 'English-Persian Agricultural Terms' which is still the first of its kind.

The Role of English knowledge in Our University Programme.

If the training of any scientific institution does not possess an evolutionary character based on independent, original and scholarly research, the knowledge that the faculty will pass on to its students will be limited and lifeless material. It will be a transmission from a reserve rather than a source of knowledge and abundance.

My experiences during 20 years of teaching English at different colleges of Tehran University and other higher institutes lead me to say that due to inadequacy of publications, there is one way in which we can, to some extent, overcome our scientific handicap and that is through the study of foreign scientific books and publications. Through this medium, interested students can broaden their outlook, interest and experience.

A brief survey of the number of Persian publications indicates how important the Knowledge of English is for our university students.

I would also like to make a comparison between students who can benefit from the vast and abundant source of scientific information and new findings and those who are

every effort is being made to create useful and interesting programmes, students are sometimes made to read current English texts* Written for foreign students To them, these texts are boring and of little value. They expect a change and higher standard. Reading, simplifying, interpreting, grammatical analysing, and, if need be, translating good up-to-date English articles in the class rooms not only interest our students in the subjects, but it also increases the range of their English vocabulary, familiarizes them with the present style of Writing, and above all, it cultivates a habit of pursuing advanced studies.

The Purpose of Reading Articles Instead of English Texts

My idea of giving good and up-to-date articles to students was to bring them closer to the main academic channel of highly advanced countries in order to provide them with first-hand knowledge of the day to day activities and progress to which numerous literary and scientific magazines, periodicals and bulletins give publicity.

They realized that I wanted them to become first-hand readers. Therefore their response was excellent. They loved reading new information and new findings in their subjects.

Vocabulary and Grammar In My System of Teaching.

Iranian university students do not like to memorize the parts of speech. They are interested to know how they appear in sentences. Grammatical analysis of the pieces we read in the class room proved the most effective way. Also derivatives of the terms produced good results, e.g. economic-

* L.G. Alexander, Practice and Progress (London: Longmans, 1969) William B. Slager, English for Today (McGraw-Hill, 1966)

THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE KNOWLEDGE OF ENGLISH IS OF USE TO IRANIAN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS.

For Iranian university students, English is the most important second language. For, English has now emerged as the common international language – and its scope covers not only the linguistic requirements for the expression of one's ordinary needs, but also the exchange of technical data in science, politics and economics, today, any university student or graduate interested in keeping up-to-date on almost all subjects is compelled to know English.

Experience shows that a university student or graduate who has a satisfactory English background is not only superior to his class fellows (or colleagues after graduation) but can also keep himself informed on the new developments and research in his field of specialization.

The Role of English As A Second Language In Our Country's Present Position

Iran, being a rapidly developing country, has great need for the acquisition of useful current information on almost all subjects to speed up her development projects.

It is, therefore, absolutely essential for the students of our universities and higher institutes in this country to be able to read and write English.

How To Teach English To Our University Students.

Iranian university and higher institute freshmen usually have a six year high school English studies background. It is therefore of little value to make them repeat work they should have done before entering the university. Whereas