

# Research and Practice of Reform on College English Teaching under the Environment of Information Technology

Ling Wang  
Henan Institute of Technology, China

**Abstract**—The rapid development of information technology has provided a new opportunity for the development of college English teaching in China. Under the background of informationization, the reform of college English teaching can meet the students' demand for individualized and differentiated learning. This paper analyzes the current situation of college English teaching and English teaching mode of information technology, and puts forward the strategy of English teaching reform under the background of informationization, in order to improve students' English proficiency in all aspects and promote the rapid development of English education and teaching in colleges and universities.

**Index Terms**—information technology, college English, teaching reform

## I. RESEARCH BACKGROUND

### A. Literature Review

The application of information technology in the process of college English teaching has fundamentally changed the status quo of English teaching and broken the traditional teaching mode. It is reflected in the changes in the way of presenting knowledge and access channels, providing students with more tools for independent learning, acquisition, and cognitive exploration. The use of information technology to change the current problems in the process of college English teaching is a must for English teaching reform (Hu, et al., 2011). In the traditional English teaching mode, there has always been the problem of "theory is more important than practice." The students being trained basically have very solid theoretical knowledge, but they have no communication ability of "listening" and "reading". Therefore, it is necessary to change this teaching concept and use information technology to carry out laboratory construction and practice education. The reform of teaching content and methods is a part of the education reform (Lan, 2012). With the continuous popularization and development of information technology in the field of education, related teaching software is becoming more and more intelligent, and the use of information technology in college English teaching reform is an inevitable trend (Li, 2016). The transformation of information technology has brought many conveniences to education reform, and has also accelerated the process of college English teaching reform. In the context of information technology, we should explore the framework of constructing college English classroom teaching and improve the English ecological teaching system with the help of multimedia network environment (Dai, 2016).

### B. Research Purpose

With China's participation in the course of the international economy's deepening and development, China has occupied an increasingly important position in the international affairs and economic structure. More and more countries and international companies cooperate with China, which means that English is more and more important as the main communication tool. Therefore, it lays higher demands on the English ability of college students, especially the students' listening and speaking ability. However, the traditional English teaching mode pays attention to the theoretical knowledge of the students, and the cultivated college students have not prepared themselves for the development and needs of the new market. At the same time, with the continuous improvement of Internet technology, the "Internet Plus" model has emerged in our lives. Since taking advantage of the Internet greatly promotes the development of the industry, "Internet + Education" has become a popular trend in the field of education. It has been inevitable to carry out reform and innovation of college English teaching with the help of the Internet. In the context of information technology, the reform of college English teaching needs to change the traditional teaching mode and concept, and shift the roles of teachers and students. In the traditional teaching mode, teachers are instructors, guides and organizers of teaching. At the same time, they guide students to serve main parts in the class, mobilize students' enthusiasm for learning and self-motivation, and cultivate students' comprehensive quality. In addition, traditional teaching content and resources should be introduced into the new media teaching mode for sake of, integrating and improving network resources, and further improve the college English teaching system. The deep integration of Internet technology and education has become an inevitable path of education reform. We shall establish an information-based

teaching environment, optimize the teaching mode, promote the reform process of college English teaching, improve the teaching level and quality of colleges and universities, and cultivate composite English talents to meet the needs of the times.

## II. THE CURRENT SITUATION OF COLLEGE ENGLISH TEACHING

The English major is generally composed of three parts, namely, language learning theory, foreign language teaching theory and foreign language teaching technology. The three aspects should be carried out reasonably, at the same time, fully developed (see Figure 1). Although the current college English course is still one of the basic courses of the university, it is not the "main curriculum" in high school. The significance of university students and teachers to this course has been seriously reduced. The teacher has changed from the original "instructor" to the "leader" at present. The students have changed from the original passive receiver to the self-learning preferences, and the learning channels have become diversified. Students have more channels and ways to employ English resources and methods, increase their motivation of English learning, and have more opportunities to present e their learning outcomes in the classroom. At the same time, the learning and lifestyle under the students also have an important impact on learning. You can use your after-class time to study with network resources, such as online courses, learning forums, and English learning software. You can also communicate with classmates and teachers in real time through social software such as WeChat and QQ to improve the efficiency and quality of learning. The era of information technology is the era of "knowledge explosion". Students can learn through various channels and methods so that, learning becomes simpler and more convenient. However, it remains that many college English teachers use traditional teaching methods and methods in the process of teaching. In the traditional teaching mode, teachers occupy the main position of the classroom, and pay too much attention to the test-taking education to judge the students' learning results in English, and ignore the importance of practical and applied English education. Specifically, the problems are as follows.

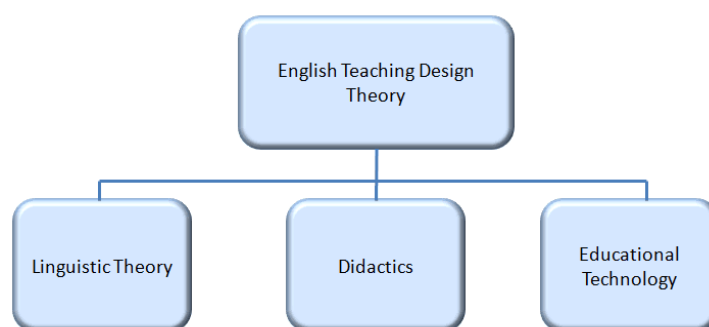


Figure 1. Composition of English Teaching

### A. Ignorance on Application Ability Training

In the process of college English teaching, teachers pay too much attention to the ability of exam-oriented education, whose focus is on the basic knowledge. All of the English test scores are the standard on the subject. And there is no targeted training and improvement on students' practical application ability. Such teaching goals and standards are no longer applicable to the needs of English talent in the new era. In the information technology environment, the standards for employing people in various industries are constantly upgrading. Students not only have to master basic theoretical knowledge, but also to possess a strong ability to comprehensively practice it, which puts higher expectations on students' English listening and speaking ability and practical ability. However, in the actual teaching process, the classroom mode mainly focuses on the study of grammar, words, and syntax, ignoring the cultivation of the actual operational ability of English (see Figure 2). This leads to students being "high-scoring and low-energy", that is, they only have theoretical knowledge, but they cannot put it into practice, and they cannot adapt to the development needs of society and affect their competitiveness in future work.

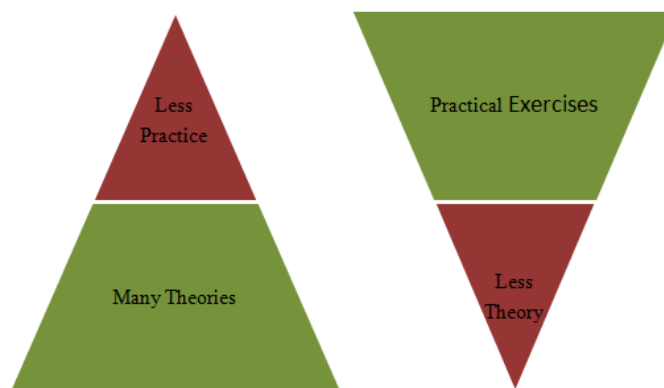


Figure 2. Traditional English Teaching Mode and English Teaching Mode Under the Background of Information Technology

### B. Insufficient Construction for Environment of English Listening and Speaking Practice

With the continuous development of China's higher education, the scale and intensity of enrollment has reached a new high, and more and more college students have put forward new requirements for the development quality of Chinese higher education. If a good learning environment for college English teaching can't be built, there is no chance to change the exam-oriented teaching situation and rote learning in the traditional English teaching mode, and it can't improve students' English comprehensive level in short time. In the current English teaching process, there is only a tiny English learning environment in the classroom for students. English listening and speaking ability is a practical training process. If there is no good environment to practice, it will inevitably cause "Chinglish" phenomenon, in the process of English communication, which would be a clear contrast with the new classroom model.

### C. Single Teaching Method

In the traditional English teaching mode, the blackboard presentation is one of the main teaching modes. Although it sometimes involves multimedia teaching, it also uses some electronic documents to display in form. There is no essential difference between these two. It is just a simple process but not take the advantages of multimedia teaching. In addition, there are still many excellent teaching models that have not really entered the college English teaching classroom. Teachers' utilization of network resources and information technology is still inadequate. In a certain sense, it has not really promoted the reform and innovation of college English teaching. It is still the old way. This traditional and single teaching mode can not stimulate the enthusiasm of students, and it is impossible to cultivate and improve the comprehensive ability of college students.

### D. Lack of Innovation in Curriculum

The college English courses are somewhat obsolete, and there still exists some unreasonable phenomena. For example, the proportion of theoretical courses is relatively large, in contrast, the number of practical courses is too few. This is also a problem in most colleges. In the classroom, teachers still use most of the practice time to require students to learn basic theoretical knowledge such as grammar, vocabulary, writing, reading, etc., ignoring the practical content of English listening and speaking ability, and the proportion of class hours is relatively low. Even if there is a listening and speaking ability, the training objectives are still biased. The focus is on the examination skills of CET4 and CET6, which is not from the view of the practical application. This unreasonable curriculum arrangement does not pay enough attention to the cultivation of students' comprehensive English ability. The students are generally of "high scores and low energy", who cannot apply the knowledge quickly and effectively to future work.

### E. Teachers' Informatization Ability Needs to Be Improved

Under the informationized teaching environment, some college English teachers lack informationized teaching quality in the classroom teaching process, so they are not likely to use modern information technology, such as PPT making, moocs, flipped classroom, etc., unwilling to accept the emerging network media, believing that the traditional teaching method is conducive to students' mastery of knowledge. Therefore, in order to improve the effectiveness of college English classes under the background of information technology, it is necessary to strengthen the training of English teachers on information technology, improve their awareness of using information teaching and the level of modern education technology, so as to better improve the effectiveness of college English classes.

### F. Students' Interest in Learning Needs to Be Improved

College English classroom teaching is not only vocabulary teaching or grammar teaching, but also the cultivation and improvement of comprehensive listening, speaking, reading, writing and translation skills, with emphasis on listening, reading and oral expression. In this way, students can not only master the background knowledge of English culture, but also lay a good foundation for future cross-cultural social work. However, many teachers turn English classes into grammar classes or vocabulary explanation classes without enough interaction, discussion and practice with students,

and students are not interested in it. Such classroom teaching is ineffective. Therefore, teachers should set up a good teaching plan and teaching links, so that students in the situation, group cooperation to enhance students' interest in learning college English.

#### *G. Students' Autonomous Learning Ability Needs to Be Improved*

In the information age, college English classroom teaching is not the traditional "teacher-centered" "cramming" teaching, but the "student-centered" self-directed learning, with teachers playing the role of "guidance" and "assistance". Only let students become the master of learning, teachers guide, students self-study, teachers with students, give guidance. Only in such a harmonious and happy teaching environment, the effectiveness of teaching can be maximized. However, at present, many college English classes do not reach such a level. Teachers also more with "indoctrination" knowledge, stay in the "teacher-centered" status, lest which knowledge point speak a leak, students do not understand. Students can not get the environment and space of independent learning, natural teaching effect and learning effect are not good.

### III. THE REFORM STRATEGY OF COLLEGE ENGLISH TEACHING UNDER THE BACKGROUND OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The application of information technology in the field of education can greatly improve the efficiency of teaching and the learning effect of students. Through the Internet, teachers can integrate more learning resources, and students can obtain more learning channels. In this way, the reform and innovation of college English teaching by means of information technology will achieve twice the result with half the effort. Information technology combined with English teaching mainly includes flipped classroom, MOOC, micro-lecture, and mixed teaching. The use of information technology means to carry out college English teaching reform mainly through the following ways.

#### *A. Establishing a Correct Concept of Talent Cultivation*

The reform of college English teaching must first establish a correct goal of English talent training, aiming at improving students' comprehensive English ability. In the traditional English teaching curriculum, the teacher is the "dominator" of the whole classroom. The main task is to teach the basic theoretical knowledge and assign tasks to the students. It is the main purpose of the classroom. The students only passively accept the knowledge and complete the task assigned by the teacher. This model is an important reason for students to produce "dumb English". Although many students have passed the CET-4, they still "can't understand" and "do not speak" in the actual application process, which seriously affects students' learning, initiative and enthusiasm. Therefore, college English teachers should change their training concepts, and improve students' comprehensive application ability as the primary goal. They should give classrooms to students, use information technology and methods to provide more learning resources and opportunities to learn and exercise listening and speaking skills for students. And they should provide opportunities to truly promote the reform and innovation of the English teaching model.

#### *B. Enriching Teaching Methods and Ways*

Under the background of information technology, the reform of college English teaching mode requires the use of online teaching platform. Colleges and universities should employ multimedia equipment, optimized multimedia technology, and English classroom assisted teaching. The multimedia teaching platform has many unique merits over the traditional teaching mode. Teachers should actively refer to these new teaching methods, and apply these teaching modes to teaching activities for, enriching teaching methods, promote the rapid development of teaching reform. At the same time, teachers must seize the opportunity, master the advantages of information technology and, improve the teaching level and quality, which not only can establish their own teaching advantages, but also promote the improvement of the overall teaching level and contribute to the teaching reform. The application of information technology can integrate many excellent teaching resources online and offline, give students more rich and diverse learning channels, stimulate students' enthusiasm and initiative, and improve students' learning efficiency.

#### *C. Strengthening the Cultivation of Teachers*

The rapid development of information technology also requires teachers to quickly learn and master new technologies so that they can, adapt to the requirements and changes of teaching in the new era, and establish the philosophy and goals of lifelong learning. Under the background of informationization, college English teaching reform requires teachers to own the ability to adapt to requirements of national teaching reform and development, the situation of the new university English system, and meet the needs of college English teaching ability in the multimedia environment. Therefore, college English teachers need to master certain information technology use methods, and can use various network resources and technologies to produce teaching courseware and resources, and contribute to the reform of college English teaching, thus promoting the development process of college English teaching reform. In addition, college English teachers should also actively update the teaching carrier. For example, teaching resources such as micro-lecture and network resources can be used to assist college English teaching.

#### *D. Increasing Infrastructure and Resource Investment*

In the context of information technology, the maintenance and operation of the facilities required for the use of

Internet technology in college English is a demanding and time-consuming cumbersome task, to operate and maintain. Multimedia is frequently used and is a public resource. During the use, teachers and students often use the same computer, and there are different storage devices connected. Therefore, professional technicians are required to conduct virus killing work regularly. At the same time, with the rapid update and iteration of information technology, software updates and system maintenance are also required to prevent from unnecessary damage caused by virus attacks. In addition, it is necessary to improve the safety awareness and protection awareness of the use of equipment by teachers and students, and to fundamentally prevent safety problems. Therefore, colleges and universities need to invest a lot of manpower and material resources to ensure the normal operation of multimedia systems. On the other hand, increase the capital investment of multimedia equipment, update hardware facilities and system software in time, and strengthen various aspects of professional operation and maintenance personnel. Professional training to ensure that the basic equipment and facilities could meet the requirements of the teaching reform and the latest situation. Increasing the investment in multimedia infrastructure is the foundation for ensuring the reform of college English teaching in the context of information technology.

#### *E. Improving the Ability of College English Teachers to Use Information Technology*

Under the information age, college English teachers, to strengthen the self learning, skilled use of information technology, such as making PPT, mu class, turning the classroom, with QQ, WeChat, nailing, interest in classroom teaching, strengthen the communication with the student extracurricular, undertake to the student individual coaching, etc., through the network to further enhance the effectiveness of classroom teaching. The professional level of teachers is very important to the effect of practical teaching. The operation ability, the practical experience, encourages the teacher to go to the enterprise to carry on the training, guarantees the teacher to bring the latest enterprise practical experience into the classroom.

#### *F. Arousing Students' Interest in Learning English*

In the information age, college English teachers can guide students to learn English and stimulate their enthusiasm for learning English through a variety of modern multimedia forms such as English movies, animation dubbing, English speech, English performance and English drama. Students can also be based on the winter level, learning ability, teaching in accordance with their aptitude to design a reasonable classroom teaching links, to meet the students' desire to learn. To guide students to study independently and inquiringly in groups, so as to promote teachers' effective teaching and make students better achieve the expected learning objectives.

In college English classroom teaching in the information age, in addition to teachers' excellent professional quality, awareness of information technology and awareness of cross-cultural Chinese culture, teachers also need to have the awareness of innovation, the innovation of teaching methods, and the flexible use of diversified multimedia teaching. More should use information way, such as QQ, WeChat, micro, nailing a second classroom guidance mode, can not only stimulate students' interest in learning, meet the rates and even zero zero after students' curiosity, to explore the psychological, let the teachers and students to build win-win cooperation in the realistic way of teaching and learning, maximize the efficiency of college English classroom teaching.

#### *G. Strengthening Teaching Organization and Innovate Teaching Methods*

In terms of teaching organization, teachers should reasonably arrange students' "classroom learning" time according to their acceptance ability so that students can truly learn knowledge. Teachers can guide students to collect English news reports and other materials related to their majors, combine the instrumental nature of language with the demand of their majors, and timely affirm the efforts of students and their social value to English learning. In addition, teachers should be good at summing up the diligent use of the brain, teaching methods are diversified, emphasize the students' main body, bold attempt, highlight personalized teaching.

#### *H. Innovating the Practical Teaching Mode and Paying Attention to the Cultivation of Students' Intercultural Consciousness and Chinese Culture's Going out Consciousness*

College English teachers, in the course of English classroom teaching, should not only speak the background knowledge of the foreign language culture, but more importantly, promote the Chinese culture to the world through students (that is, the future elites in various fields), and cultivate their patriotic spirit. We will guide students to read more literary classics and classics of traditional Chinese studies after class, and cultivate them into international talents with strong cross-cultural abilities.

#### *I. Strengthening the Training of Order Classes and Promoting the Cooperation and Exchange between Schools and Enterprises*

The implementation of talent order training, is the depth of cooperation between the school and the employer, the reservation or customization of a certain number of talents, the signing of agreements, the establishment of a long-term and stable school-enterprise partnership, the conditions, please more students into foreign trade enterprises for practical operation and internship. The school carries out characteristic training in a planned way according to the employment requirements of enterprises, and establishes an "employment-oriented" talent training mechanism, which can not only

ensure the quality of education, greatly arouse the enthusiasm of students in learning English, but also further strengthen the integration of schools and enterprises, enrich teaching cases and promote teaching reform.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

The in-depth development of information technology will definitely transform the college English teaching mode and teaching concept. Under the information technology environment, the reform of college English teaching mode has become an inevitable trend. Given the convenient use of information technology in the reform of college English teaching, it effectively compensates for the problems in traditional English teaching. In this process, universities are required to alter traditional teaching concepts and training objectives, and to put students' comprehensive ability in the first place. Colleges and universities should fully utilize the power of information technology to continuously enrich teaching methods and methods. Teachers should actively motivate their subjective and initiative to meet the requirements of teaching reform under the new situation. They should make great efforts to boost the reform of college English teaching, improve the quality of college English teaching and students' comprehensive quality proficiency of English.

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**Ling Wang**, Henan Institute of Technology, Xinxiang Henan, 453000, China. She received her Master Degree in English language teaching from Henan Normal University, China in 2011. She is currently working at Henan Institute of Technology, Xinxiang, China. Her research interests include English Teaching, Translation studies, etc.