

Storytelling and Creativity

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'It is the supreme art of the teacher to awaken joy in creative expression and knowledge.'

ALBERT EINSTEIN

The classroom, which is immersed in the drawing characters and plot, can handle the difficult part of the learning and can be memorized efficiently. The activity of the one-liner by the learners enhances the quality of learning and education.

Storytelling enhances comprehension, culture, and memory, allowing disciples to emotionally connect with the essence of a story and refine their analytical skills. Creativity can be expressed through several methods, like role-playing, dance, and video, which may support students to experiment with the language dynamically. The body movements and picture make the classroom less boring and allow everyone to participate without hesitation. It also weakens the cramming of the students and asks them to inquire, which strengthens their curiosity through imagination.

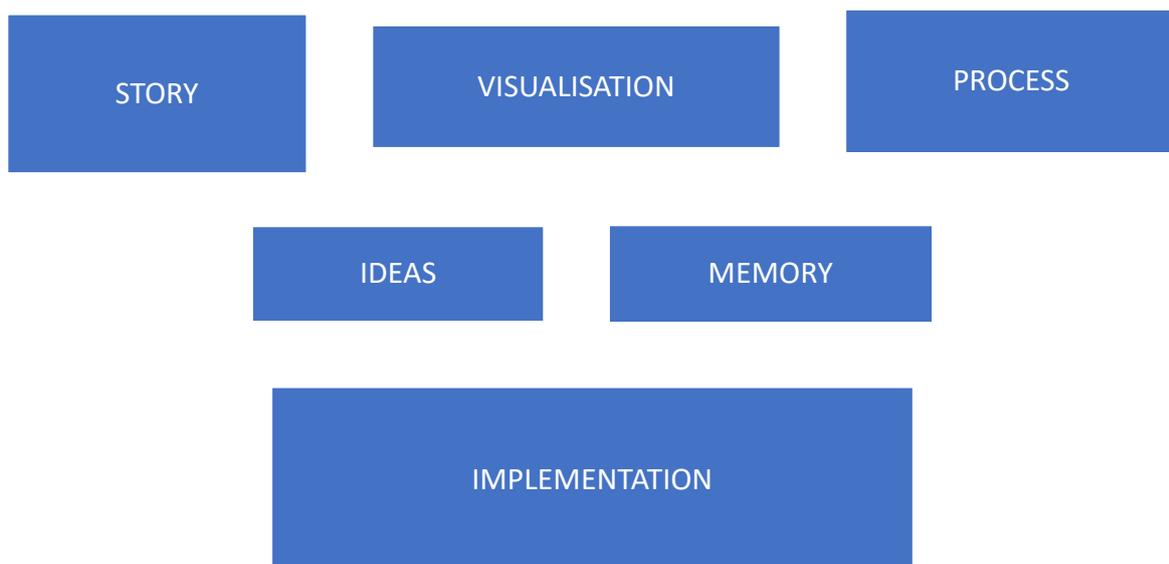
Storytelling and creativity are Herculean modes to alter the passive classroom into an active learning environment. By adapting the style of narration based on imagination, teachers and pupils promote active learning and make language acquisition more comprehensible and interesting. This approach not only solidifies language skills but also enhances confidence and connection and makes the educational experience more enjoyable. With these methods, the classroom evolves into speaking and writing, where students can learn while having discussions and communicating in English.

Imagination gives the side of the learning which improves and promotes the angle of students' level of acquisition in the classroom, when students go back, they have something to take with them and continue learning outside the class too.

INTRODUCTION

Storytelling and creativity have become favourite tools for many teachers and students in the classroom. These methods serve as powerful sources to enhance comprehension and memory skills among learners. Language is a medium of expression that cannot be learned through formulas or rules. Language is not only conveyed through words but can also be expressed through signs and symbols. A second language cannot be acquired in the same way that humans tend to acquire their first language. Not all learners can be in a second-language-speaking country. Thus, storytelling and narration create that space for the learners to adapt English as a second language.

“One never puts down a sentence without the feeling that it has never been put down before in such a way, and that perhaps even the substance of the sentence has never been felt. Every sentence is an innovation.” –John Cheever. When a teacher uses sentences, they explain the innovations in language that are expressed and understood through different interpretations. The sentences in the story are a symbol of the power of language. The articulation of the story gives an unfamiliar vibe which cannot be taken the same way as textbooks. Learning ESL through a story sets the rhythm of the language, which has a greater impact on the minds of the learners. Language and its grammar are to be remembered when it is taught with a personal touch and experiences. It is learned naturally rather than by cramming.



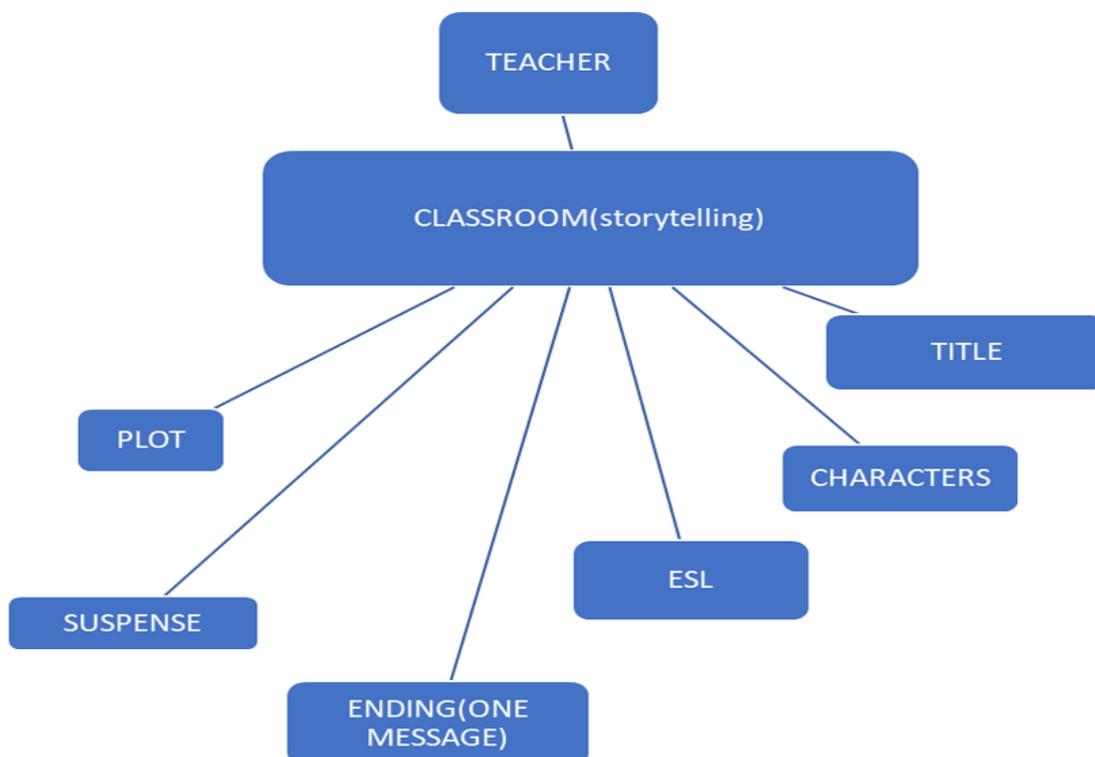
PROCESS OF LEARNING THROUGH STORYTELLING

There is acquiring the language through a story that gives the power of visualising the characters into life, who walk, eat, and speak. Learners go through the process of understanding the characters and start imagining themselves, and start forming ideas. It creates a memory in the listeners, and they apply it in the targeted language. This process of learning through storytelling brings the language closer to the minds of the learners.

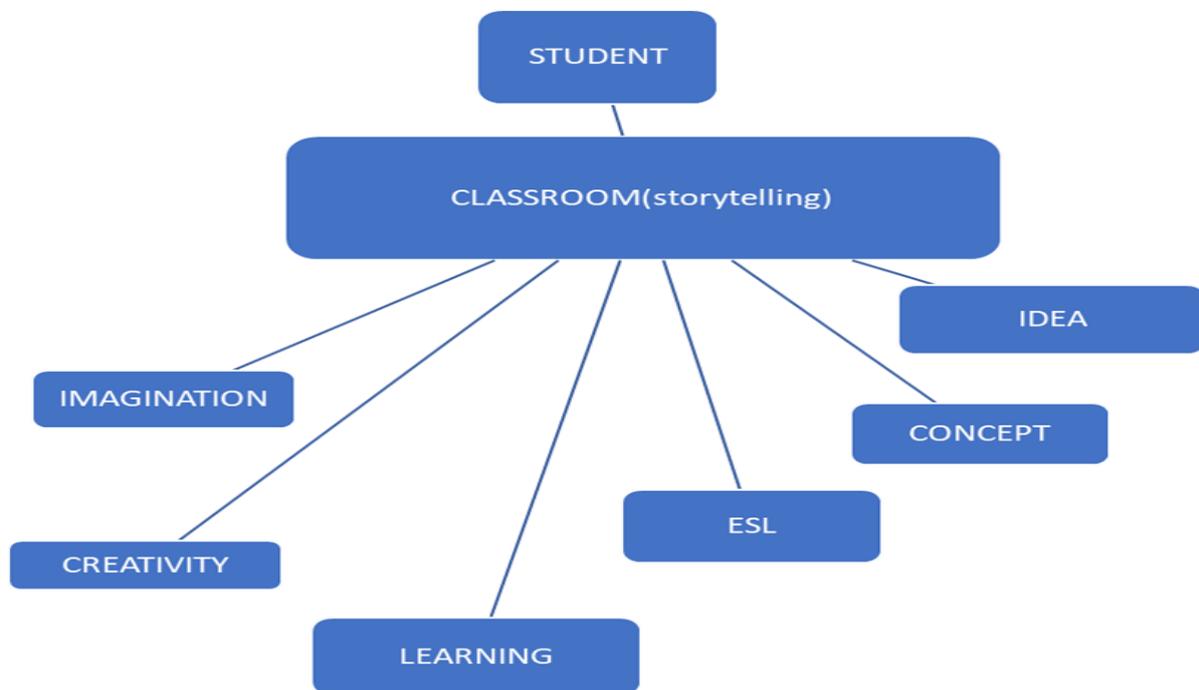
ROLE OF LANGUAGE

What is the use of language? Its usage lies in communication. Language of signs, words, and love has one purpose: to communicate. Language is the most common and essential part of human life. The expression comes through language. “Storytelling is among the oldest forms of human communication. Storytelling is the commonality of all human beings, in all places, in all times.” –Rives Collins. It allows two people to communicate and understand each other. Language becomes easier to learn when it is taught in the context of culture and stories. It pumps the creativity and connectivity of the students with English as a second language in the classroom.

STORYTELLING IN ESL LEARNING



The traditional method of teaching through textbooks promotes learning; however, it makes it less natural. Language is an essential mode of expression in human life. The learning process through stories, which provides glimpses of the culture, involves vocabulary, true instances, or truth-based fantasy. Such practices can lead learners to a positive outcome and a non-hindering path of learning. The personality of learners develops throughout the classroom and the process of learning. When students enrol in second-language classes, they already know that grasping the language will be tough, as it has different foundations, cultures, and background settings. In the pursuit of acquiring the skills of a second language, storytelling lays the stage for the aspirants not only for mastering vocabulary, grammar, and syntax, but also the cultural aspects of that language.



POWER OF STORYTELLING

“We are, as a species, addicted to story. Even when the body goes to sleep, the mind stays up all night, telling itself stories.” –Jonathan Gottschall. For many centuries, stories have been an indispensable part of human life. Stories connect people to the culture and language when there was no written material. It was a conversation among the group; individuals helped listeners to comprehend the language. When one starts conversing through stories, it creates an environment that is full of language. The method of storytelling forms an interesting learning space for the learners and leads them not only to acquire the language but also morals and ethics through narration.

The narration in the classroom teaches the expression, sympathy, empathy, sadness, love, and the different kinds of emotions that can be learned. When lectures are conducted in story mode, they offer a rich understanding of the language. Expressions and body language connect learners to the subjects and objects of the story.

The storytelling method attracts the students and sticks to the tales like a magnet, piques their interest, and motivates them to think, What will happen next? The story has a plot, sub-plot, suspense, and unexpected turns which tie them to the class learning and make them curious about the next event. It not only makes the students interested in learning, but also forces them to analyse the story critically in that target language.

OBJECTIVES OF STORTELLING

The motives of storytelling in the classroom are learning ESL naturally. When the instructor narrates the story to students, they learn the glossary, expressions, and dialogue delivery. The purpose of this method also relates the students to the moral, information, and knowledge. For example, any story that is set in one historical location, and characters are placed in that place, then there will be an emergence of the records of the events that occurred in the past, and the names of the other vicinities. This method is designed to inform the students about the various aspects related to the language.

It also inspires the learners to imagine. The method of storytelling has the potential to make students dwell in the story and create a relationship with the characters, and become curious. In this way, language just becomes the mode of understanding, and the focus goes on acquiring culture and customs related to that language.

The inclusion of storytelling as a method in the classroom not only makes the learners passionate about language but also enables them to learn the complex subject. The techniques of storytelling push the learners to be expressive and imaginative in the target language, and the purpose of the language is to communicate. This leaves a profound impact on the students to learn and apply the learnings, which helps them to converse in the language fluently.

Storytelling is a method that has been in use for years. The method of teaching through stories is an art. The explanation of language in expression, experiences, and thoughts can be done effectively by words, sounds, and signs. This mode elaborates on the session in a better way for the learners to grasp the subject. When anecdotes form the basis of the teaching, learners are able to process the information effectively and make the learning more interesting. For

example, when History is taught as a story, it becomes interesting than just stating the facts. When a teacher teaches through the story, a learner initiates to comprehend it in its context and analyze it.

Storytelling aims to learn the language. The title of the story is to select the apt one that is suitable to become skilled in using the language naturally. A learner shall be able to get the nuances of the targeted language.

PROCESS OF STORYTELLING

First, it is important to understand the age group of the listeners when choosing the story to be narrated in the classroom. Whether the group of listeners is of 10 years or 50 years. If the group belongs to the 10-year age group, then the story cannot be about romance or war. As a teacher, one should take the essence of a story into consideration. In the ESL classroom, a storyline can talk about day-to-day life. The story should not be religious or politically related, as it can hurt the listener's sentiments. The plot must be declared, whether it is based on factual or non-factual, and its reference. The conclusion can be different from learners' expectations. The speed of the teacher shall match to listeners' skills, and the intonations are important when the classroom is language-oriented.

The story must be one message-based, and should not be too informative. When the narrator narrates the story, the speaker is supposed to have intervals to allow students to share their thoughts, motivate them to share their interpretation, and do the peer discussion by using in the target language. The role of storytelling in the classroom is to make the learners think in the SECOND LANGUAGE when they return to their home.

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