

# Analysis of Teaching with Effective Combination of Higher Vocational English Education and Professional Skills

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**Abstract:** Higher vocational education aims at training high-quality talents based on social requirements, thus promoting social development and economic prosperity. Besides, there are many development opportunities that allow students to exert strong social competitive power in their employment or venture for great success. Under the global economic integration, the key to improve students' comprehensive ability is the effective combination between higher vocational English education and professional skills. This is also the necessary means to the cultivation of high-quality talents. This work has deeply pondered on English education according to factors that affecting the combination between higher vocational English education and professional skills. Finally, some measures are proposed for the effective combination between English education and professional skills, thus improving the level of higher vocational English education.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

In English education, some existing problems have affected the combination between education and professional skills. These problems go against the cultivation of students' ability of knowledge application, even affecting their career planning. Combination between English education and professional skills has following advantages. On the one hand, the combination is beneficial to the improvement of students' comprehensive ability as well as the cultivation of high-quality talents; on the other hand, it creates many opportunities and provides students with bright future.

## 2 PRESENT SITUATION AND PROBLEMS OF HIGHER VOCATIONAL ENGLISH EDUCATION

### 2.1 Inadequate Connection between Education and Practice

The final purpose of education is the practical application of knowledge. Higher vocational English

education also aims to train students' ability of English application, thus making them successful in employment or venture. The biggest problem in higher vocational English education is the disjunction of teaching and practice. Firstly, English teachers in higher vocational college mostly follow the traditional teaching model with inflexible content and old-fashioned teaching goals. So it is hard to satisfy the practical application of students' English learning. Secondly, English teaching in higher vocational college mainly focus on basic knowledge, lacking innovation and development. Furthermore, there is not enough connection between English learning and practical application, resulting in the knowledge students learned could not find its position. As time passes, students would reject English learning. Thirdly, there is little connection between English teaching and social requirement. As a result, the social requirement for English talents cannot be satisfied, leaving higher vocational students enormous employment pressure. Thirdly, the feature of English teaching is not prominent in higher vocational college. Many colleges just pay attention to College English Test, ignoring the practical application of English learning. Therefore, the connection is not enough between English teaching and practical application.

## 2.2 Blindness in Teaching Reform

The severe problem of “high in marks but poor in abilities” has impressed people about the disadvantages of exam-oriented education. Then the idea of quality education is proposed and carried out quickly. However, there is little change to the selection mode, resulting in the blindly pursuit of scores. Firstly, it is shown in the formalism of teaching method. With the deepening of education reform, instructional practice has been enriched by various teaching methods. However, it is not the diversity but applicability of teaching methods that has affected the quality of teaching. In the teaching reform, teachers just mechanically gave lectures, ignoring the applicability and scientificity of teaching methods. So it is difficult to improve teaching quality. For example, the stratified teaching in English education has strong advantages, with positive meaning to improve students' overall English proficiency. But in teaching practice, teachers just blindly divide the teaching phases. Such behaviors not only contribute little to the improvement of students' English proficiency, but also beat students' enthusiasm, even making English teaching get into trouble. Secondly, blind imitation has wasted multiple teaching resources, as well as teachers' and students' energy. For example, English activities should combine students' practical English ability to motivate students' enthusiasm and learning interest, thus improving the teaching effect. Besides, scientific and proper activities time should be arranged to avoid the bad influence on normal teaching. In practical teaching, many wrong cases can be presented, even some English activities being carried out with the sacrifice of normal teaching. On the one hand, too many English activities will affect normal teaching, with little contribution to the development of teaching and improvement of students' practical ability. On the other hand, students will become tired and bored with the endless activities, or even losing interest as time goes by. Furthermore, students' weariness may even extend to English learning. Therefore, too many English activities will go against the combination between English education and professional skills.

## 2.3 Inadequate Cooperation between Enterprise and College

For colleges, to cooperate with enterprise is an effective way to improve students' practical ability. However, if the cooperation was inadequate, students are unable to master knowledge and skills

well, thus affecting the effect of knowledge application. For example, in business English teaching, English teaching should be linked closely to social economic and business activities to achieve knowledge application. Then, students are able to realize the purpose and significance of knowledge learning, so as to promote teaching. However, inadequate cooperation with enterprise would result in few practice opportunity for students. Meantime, knowledge learning and expansion are also limited, ignoring knowledge application. Furthermore, it is difficult for students to master and apply professional skills, thus affecting the improvement of students' comprehensive quality. In aviation crew English teaching, there is also a difference of knowledge application in situation and in practice for limited profession scene provided by multimedia. Therefore, the combination with enterprise directly affects the cultivation of students' ability of knowledge and improvement of their professional skills. For another example, most talents of English education major will take up the education positions with clear profession goals. Therefore, teachers should pay attention to the cultivation of students' professional skills, allowing them to master more teaching experience. However, the enrichment of students' teaching experience requires the cooperation with related enterprises and institutions. Then, students can obtain more professional skills in practice, thus realizing the study for the purpose of application.

## 2.4 Deficiency in Ideological Cognition

With the continuous development of universities, the concept of talents cultivation is updating. The employment of graduate is relatively ideal. However, there are still some problems in the employment and education of students, affecting the development of higher vocational education. Firstly, about 70% of the graduates choose jobs with little relationship to their majors, wasting educational resources and students' energy and time to some extent. Secondly, many people hold the view that higher vocational colleges are just the cradle of workers, where students just master professional skills without other abilities. As a result, some students ignore the importance of English education and improvement of comprehensive ability, thus affecting their scores in social positions and promotion. Thirdly, due to the prejudice of society to higher vocational colleges, many parents just send children to colleges for specialty learning. With inadequate planning and guidance for students' life

and occupations, most of them have the idea of graduation for employment. Then, students become inactive in learning, with low learning goals, so it is hardly to develop their potential. In addition, the selection of government civil servants mostly sets bachelor degree as the base line, sharpening the prejudice of society to colleges. Furthermore, the expected value of society is low for the talents in higher vocational colleges. Due to the deficiency and prejudice on cognition, it is difficult to effectively combine higher vocational English education with professional skills. As a result, students prefer to conduct a faint attempt at learning rather than working hard.

### **3 EFFECTIVE COMBINATION BETWEEN ENGLISH EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL SKILLS**

#### **3.1 Connecting Teaching with Practice**

The purpose of knowledge learning is to better serve practice. In English teaching, the close combination between knowledge and practice can effectively improve students' ability of English application and professional skills. Firstly, close combination between English teaching and social requirement plays a guiding role in English teaching. Besides, it also contributes to the cultivation of professional and practical talents as well as development of English education. Secondly, once English education is placed at social practice, learning is closely linked with application. In this way, the learned English knowledge of students will be integrated and expanded in practice, thus improving students' comprehensive ability. Then, students could be the talents with high quality and skill needed by society. Thirdly, both the basic knowledge and practice should be emphasized. With knowledge guiding practice and practice expanding knowledge, students can improve their practical ability by the learning and application of knowledge. Then, good foundation is established for students' future position in society. Fourth, school-running characteristics should be highlighted. The combination between English education and professional skills should be reformed and developed to transform knowledge into students' ability. Then, students will be more competitive in society, thus making brilliant achievements in their careers.

#### **3.2 Making Full Use of Teaching Resources**

The close combination between English education and practice is an effective way to improve students' professional skills. However, there are too many constraints to achieve this combination. In practical activities, it requires plenty of time and energy, as well as fine and scientific planning to achieve the expected effect. Besides, to use the teaching resources properly and fully is also an effective way to combine English education and professional skills. For example, campus network should be scientifically used to launch English education. With the communication combined professional skills, students' ideology and insight will be enriched. Besides, students' professional skill will also be improved with the guidance of combing knowledge learning with practice. Meantime, teachers can also recommend some advanced and fashionable professions to students, motivating them to appreciate the charm of English and profession. Then, students will become more active to learn English, improving their comprehensive ability and professional skills. In addition, rational utilization of multimedia can build vivid situations to improve the combination between English education and professional skills, promoting the development of students' comprehensive ability.

#### **3.3 Strengthening the Cooperation between Enterprise and College**

The cooperation between college and enterprise is the empirical essence of colleges. It is also an effective way to improve students' comprehensive ability. To strengthen the cooperation, the model should be mastered well to realize the win-win. Firstly, colleges should pay attention to the synchronous cultivation of students' knowledge ability and professional skills to avoid disjunction. If college only teach knowledge and enterprise only cultivate skills, then it is easy to result in the disjunction between knowledge and practice. When the disjunction happens, enterprise has to shoulder more responsibility and burden to train undergraduates, which will make them lose interest to this cooperation. Secondly, the advantage of college should be presented in such cooperation. Colleges should hold the dominant position to provide students with more positions in accordance with their major to improve their practical skills. Then, students could understand the relationship between learning and application in practice, thus

adjusting their learning state for better combination between English learning and professional skills. Thirdly, students should be motivated to make full use of the surrounding resources for social practice, thus improving their professional skills. This can also promote the combination between English education and professional skills. For example, English education majors should seek the positions such as home tutoring and teachers of remediation class to accumulate experiences and enrich practical knowledge. In this way, students are able to cultivate and improve their professional skills while learning English.

### 3.4 Strengthening Students' Professional Skills

In summary, the cultivation and improvement of professional skills is the key step in the combination between English education and professional skills. Then, English teaching can well serve for students' social practice. To strengthen students' professional skills is a manner of reverse thinking. English learning is an objective process, so how to learn English well is the key of this combination. With their professional skills strengthened, students are able to realize the importance of English learning as well as the requirement direction of English application. In this way, students will hold the keystone of English learning with the teachers' guidance, thus improving their English ability with aims and directions. Then English education and professional skills are closely combined. Furthermore, with their comprehensive ability improved, students will become the compound talents with high specialty and quality. In this way, they will not only better serve social development, but also win a splendid career.

### 3.5 Scientific Inspection of Teaching Quality

Evaluation of teaching quality likes an invisible baton, directing the education of all disciplines. In English education, traditional inspection models are unsuitable for the combination between English education and professional skills, or even estranging the combination. Besides, traditional model rather puts the emphasis on examination than on application, restricting the development of students' comprehensive ability. During the inspection of English teaching quality, the first should be emphasized is the positive significance of traditional inspection. Then students will actively participate

into English education under the stimulation and supervision of traditional examination. The second that should be emphasized is the relationship between examination and practice. On the one hand, the examination on both students' knowledge and practical ability is helpful to improve their ability of knowledge application. On the other hand, through the emphasizing on practice examination, the examination results can be adjusted via the evaluation of students' knowledge learning and social practice. Then, the evaluation of teaching quality will become more scientific to promote the relationship between English education and professional skills, thus promoting students' levels.

## 4 CONCLUSIONS

Higher vocational education is the cradle of social talents. Society provides various opportunities for all kinds of higher vocational graduates. In English education, the effective combination between English education and professional skills is helpful to improve students' comprehensive ability and the ability of knowledge application. It is also an effective way to cultivate compound talents that needed by society. In addition, the existing problems should be solved combined with the deficiencies in current English education. This teaching reform is also an important manner to promote the combination between English education and professional skills, with important significance for English education. In this way, English education will cultivate more talents and provide them with opportunities for self-development. Then, the talents in higher vocational colleges can better serve and contribute to the society after graduation, thus promoting the development of higher vocational education.

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