

## LITERATURE COMPLEMENTS LANGUAGE LEARNING

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English, a globally accepted language, has greatly influenced the Indian language learners. One can find several *Spoken English Schools* trying to teach language to the students –young or old, a girl or a boy, those coming from any part of the country. The *Primary objective* for the Learners of English (as second language) is **to master in the language during variety of situations, social context and professional areas.** *Au Contraire*, we find that the communicative power of those persons is restricted to their ability and on their power to cram few words.

They never get to know as to how they can put to use their little knowledge, in their day-to-day lives. According to a recent survey done, it has been realised that **Language and Literature are inseparable**, are complementary to each other. Thus, it makes mandatory for the teachers to teach Literary texts in teaching language. Reading Articles, Stories, Novels etc. provide rich linguistic input, effective stimuli to the students to express them and gives a potential boost & motivation to the learners to a great extent. If the student remains incompetent in community after completing a course in English language, all the literary tests are seen somewhat redundant, rather than useful; thereby, leading to discouragement with the language learners. We cannot separate Language teaching with literature teaching, *either it is in the human mind or in the practice*, is fraught with danger.

Widowson's claim "study of literature is fundamentally a study of language in operation", is based on the realisation that Literature is an example of language in use and is a context for language use. Thus, if we study the language of literary texts as language-in-operation, it is seen as enhancing the learners' appreciation of aspects of different systems of language organisation.

Michael Short's comment on literature and language being inseparable cannot be missed to be

quoted as "Literature and language teaching should be linked and made mutually reinforcing" (Ref: Short and Candlin, 1986). **We cannot gain satisfying results if we study literature only for aesthetic enjoyment and study language without literary texts.** The use of literary texts helps to improve language skills like reading, writing, listening and speaking. Besides, literature helps to improve vocabulary, grammar, pronunciation etc. Hence, it tends to connect ideas, discourse functions of the sentence. **The real life Samples** exposed through literature (via Stories, poetries, Essays etc.) are beneficial.

Reading of Literature also helps in widening the horizons of understanding human nature. It is through the help of Literature that, we use wide range of language varieties at different situations of our life. A person **speaks differently in different social contexts** like school, hospital, Police Station, Court, Theatre, etc. (i.e. formal or informal, casual or intimate). The language we use, changes from one profession to another. Therefore, in order to learn a language, we cannot deny the help provided to us by literature. It is through this paper, I, have tried to explore that **literature is a great help in learning and understanding a language.** This would help us that why a language teacher should use Literature in case of second language learners. It is in the teacher's domain as what & how to teach and how to use poetry/ drama/ prose/ short stories or novels for their language teaching i.e. how literary texts remain unavoidable tools in the hands of language teache.

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