

ENGLISH'S PLACE IN THE PHILIPPINES: CURRENT SITUATION

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Since the Americans colonized the Philippines, we have acquired some of their traditions and rituals, which we unquestionably continue to value today. These Americans taught the Filipinos about several aspects of their cultures, such eating hamburgers and fries, preparing for school, and, most crucially, their English language, which helped the nation become Asia's top English-speaking nation. By that time, Filipinos had established themselves as proficient English speakers throughout Asia, making the country the top choice for other Asians looking to learn how to speak, read, and write English with proper grammar and pronunciation. They regard Filipinos as excellent educators.

Apart from the fact that the Philippines is the second Asian nation with a high level of English proficiency, it is quite concerning that the nation rated 22nd in the most recent international English proficiency test in 2022, as opposed to 13th in the world in the test that was conducted in 2016. Experts contend that there are unrecognized factors contributing to the nation's eroding English competence. Because of the Pacific Ocean's distance between the Philippines and America, which is miles distant geographically, it is frequently difficult for English-speaking native speakers to visit the country. As a result, Filipinos are missing out on opportunities to practice their English and are not keeping up with linguistic trends. Second, because nearly everything is accessible online, most Filipino students preferred to simply type their concerns into the search bar and instantly receive a response with a single click. Less time is available to read books. Last but not least, there are some inaccurate and mistaken English publications printed and produced

in the Philippines. Before generating it, this needs to go through a thorough examination process. If this doesn't cease, it might get worse for young Filipino learners.

This is not still the end for the Philippines. If the Philippines made it to the top before, it is possible to happen again today. There is nothing wrong in going back to basics and identifying which part of studying English failed if this is the only way for Filipinos to be on the pedestal again. Through this, the Philippines can now uplift its name to the global trends.

References:

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Mike Cabigon (2018), State of English in PH: Should we be concerned?

Read more: <https://opinion.inquirer.net/90293/state-of-english-in-ph-should-we-be-concerned#ixzz7vjaHT62A>