

ROLE OF ENGLISH AS A GLOBAL LANGUAGE AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR EDUCATION

by:

Lizette Christine L. Dulo

Teacher III, Magsaysay National High School

Being a universal language, English has a profound impact on how education is provided throughout the world. Its pervasiveness links people from different language backgrounds and affects the dissemination of knowledge, the nature of communication, and the accessibility of educational possibilities.

According to Ozdemir (2014), English's use as a lingua franca in academia is one significant effect of its global importance. This makes it easier for researchers and students to collaborate internationally and share knowledge, enabling them to do joint research, take part in international conferences, and have access to a multitude of scholarly resources. The widespread use of English as a common academic language fosters an increasingly globalized and integrated academic community.

Nevertheless, the widespread use of English also creates difficulties when it comes to gaining access to international information and services. There is a language barrier for non-native speakers because scholarly journals, research articles, and instructional materials are primarily available in English. This highlights how important it is to provide all students worldwide with a thorough education in the English language to guarantee fair access to resources and information.

The internationalization of higher education has been propelled by the influence of English. English-language programs and courses are offered by universities all over the world, drawing a varied student and faculty population. Through increasing cultural diversity on campuses and giving students a global perspective, internationalization

fosters a more connected and cosmopolitan learning environment. Another important factor to consider is how English affects both of these areas. Being able to communicate in English is becoming increasingly important in the global employment market, as many multinational corporations and international organizations have made it their primary language. Worldwide educational institutions understand how important it is to give pupils a solid foundation in English to increase their competitiveness in the changing workforce.

Although English is widely used, this has led to worries about linguistic disparity in the classroom. If they do not speak English well enough, students from non-English speaking nations may find it difficult to get a good education. Inclusive language education policies are necessary to ensure that linguistic diversity does not impede educational opportunities and to remedy these discrepancies.

English's widespread use has cultural ramifications that affect identity and cultural interchange. It may eventually eclipse regional tongues and customs, raising questions about cultural uniformity. In order to maintain the richness of linguistic and cultural history, promote cultural diversity, and strike this delicate balance, educational institutions must play a critical role.

English continues to solidify its position as the main language for communication and instructional content in MOOCs and e-learning platforms in the age of digital communication and online learning. This changes the landscape of digital education while also making it easier for people all over the world to access educational resources. It also emphasizes how important English literacy is for people who want to take advantage of online learning opportunities.

English's status as a universal language has significant effects on education. Its influence is extensive, ranging from acting as a lingua franca in academic settings to impacting employability and reshaping cultural dynamics. But a balanced approach is

essential as educators and policymakers work through the issues of language disparity and cultural diversity. Fostering an inclusive, equitable, and integrated global educational landscape requires finding a peaceful balance between the advantages of a global language and the preservation of linguistic and cultural diversity.

References:

Ozdemir, N. O. (2014). The Role Of English As A Lingua Franca In Academia: The Case Of Turkish Postgraduate Students In An Anglophone-Centre Context. *Procedia - Social and Behavioral Sciences*, 141, 74-78. doi:10.1016/j.sbspro.2014.05.014