Research on specific implementation path of digital empowerment in college English teaching in local private universities

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Abstract: In the digital era, with the rapid development of information technology, digital technology has penetrated into all aspects of the field of education, bringing unprecedented changes to higher education. As an important part of the higher education system, how to seize the opportunity in the digital world and realize the innovation and development of college English teaching has become an urgent problem to be solved. College English, as a basic course of higher education, is of great significance in cultivating students' intercultural communication ability and international vision. However, due to various factors, college English teaching in local private universities generally faces some problems, such as insufficient teaching resources, single teaching methods and poor English application ability of students. The introduction of digital technology provides new ideas and methods to solve these problems.

Key words: digital empowerment; local private universities; college English teaching

1 Introduction

With the rapid development of the digital age, the wide application of information technology has swept through every corner of society like a torrent, and the education industry naturally cannot stay out of it. For local private colleges and universities, this change is not only the upgrading of technology, but also a profound challenge and new opportunities to the traditional education model. Especially in the key field of college English teaching, the integration of digital technology provides a strong impetus and unlimited possibilities for teaching reform.

2 The connotation and characteristics of digital empowerment

Digital empowerment, as an important embodiment of contemporary technological innovation, is centered on the use of digital technology and information and communication technology to deeply optimize and innovate traditional business models, management processes and service methods. This kind of empowerment is not limited to the business field, but also shows great potential and value in the field of education. In the field of education, digital empowerment specifically refers to the integration of digital technology into the whole process of teaching in an all-round way, so as to optimize the allocation of resources, enrich the teaching mode, enhance the learning experience, and realize the modernization of educational governance.

In college English teaching, the specific application of digital empowerment is particularly prominent. First of all, through the online learning platform, teachers can provide students with rich and diverse learning resources, such as

English original works, documentaries, news reports, etc., so that students can immerse themselves in the real language environment [1]. In addition, using the interactive software, students can carry out language application practice, such as oral dialogue, writing exercises, etc., so as to improve their language application ability.

At the same time, the potential impact of digital empowerment on college English teaching is profound. In addition to enriching the content and form of teaching, digital technology also provides students with an environment for independent learning and collaborative learning. Students can use digital tools to learn at any time, anywhere, no longer limited to traditional classroom instruction. This way of learning not only improves students' learning efficiency, but also cultivates their independent learning ability and collaborative spirit.

3 The current situation of college English teaching in local private universities

In terms of teaching resources, the shortage of funds is particularly obvious to local private universities. These schools often face limited budgets, resulting in insufficient resources to update textbooks and teaching facilities. Due to the lack of adequate financial support, these schools are often unable to introduce the latest version of textbooks in a timely manner, resulting in the content of textbooks lagging behind the latest language development. This not only limits students' access to the most cutting-edge English knowledge and culture, but also affects the cultivation of their language application ability. In addition to the lagging update of teaching materials, the outdated teaching facilities are also an important factor restricting the teaching quality of local private colleges and universities. Due to the lack of maintenance and updating, some teaching facilities such as voice LABS and multimedia classrooms in some schools have outdated equipment and limited functions, which are difficult to meet the diversified learning needs of students. This not only affects the learning experience of students, but also limits the ability of teachers to innovate teaching methods and means.

The shortage of teachers is another key problem that restricts the development of local private universities. Due to the limited number of teachers, many schools have to adopt the form of large classes. This teaching method makes it difficult for teachers to pay attention to each student's learning status and provide personalized teaching guidance. At the same time, due to the relatively backward educational concepts and methods of some teachers, it is difficult to stimulate students' interest and motivation in English learning. In this case, students' learning efficiency and learning outcomes are often affected. In order to alleviate these problems, local private universities need to actively seek diversified funding sources, such as government support, social donations, school-enterprise cooperation, etc., to improve teaching resources and facilities. At the same time, schools also need to strengthen the construction of teachers, so as to improve the professional quality and teaching ability of teachers and stimulate their teaching enthusiasm and innovative spirit [2].

In terms of teaching methods, the traditional teaching mode takes the teacher as the center and adopts the teaching method of lecturing. This "teacher-centered" teaching method lacks interaction with students, resulting in a dull classroom atmosphere and students' learning interest is difficult to be stimulated. In this mode, students often only passively accept knowledge and lack the opportunity to actively think and participate, which not only affects the learning effect of students, but also hinders the development of their critical thinking and innovation ability. In addition, the lack of attention to individual differences in traditional teaching methods leads to the lack of individualized teaching. Each student has his own unique learning style, interests and learning abilities, but traditional teaching methods often ignore these differences and adopt a one-size-fits-all teaching method, making it difficult for students with different levels and needs to get targeted guidance. This not only leaves high level students bored and unchallenged, but also leaves students with weak foundations confused and unable to keep up with the teaching progress.

From the perspective of students' needs, the expectations of contemporary college students for English learning have changed significantly. They are no longer satisfied with just mastering basic language knowledge, but want to be able to

flexibly apply English in cross-cultural communication, academic research, international employment and other fields. However, at present, college English teaching in local private universities often stays on the traditional grammar explanation and vocabulary memorization, and neglects the cultivation of students' practical application ability. This makes students feel at a loss when faced with real scenarios and unable to meet the needs for English in different fields. In addition, the existing evaluation system also needs to be improved. At present, the evaluation system of college English teaching in most local private universities is still mainly based on language scores, ignoring the evaluation of students' practical application ability and comprehensive quality [3]. This single evaluation method not only fails to fully reflect the students' English level, but also limits their development in other aspects. Therefore, we need to establish a more comprehensive and diversified evaluation system, including students' language ability, cross-cultural communication ability, teamwork ability and other aspects of the evaluation scope, so as to better reflect the comprehensive quality and development potential of students.

4 The specific implementation path of digital empowerment

4.1 The digitalization of teaching resources

Digital technology provides infinite possibilities for the optimization and expansion of teaching resources. First of all, through the online learning platform, teachers can introduce a variety of English learning resources, such as English original works, documentaries, news reports, etc., so that students can be immersed in the real language environment. At the same time, using big data and artificial intelligence technology, teachers can accurately analyze students' learning needs, recommend suitable learning resources for them, and realize personalized learning. In addition, digital technology can also break the constraints of time and space, achieve distance learning and collaborative learning, so that students can learn anytime, anywhere.

4.2 The digitalization of teaching methods

Traditional teaching methods tend to be mainly taught by teachers, and students lack initiative and the sense of participation. The application of digital technology can innovate teaching methods and enhance students' learning interest and effect. For example, online teaching allows students to study at home via the Internet, which not only saves time costs, but also improves the autonomy of learning. Blended teaching combines the advantages of online and offline, retaining the interactive and ritualistic feel of the traditional classroom, while expanding the time and space of learning through online resources. In addition, the application of technologies such as virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR) can create an immersive learning experience for students, giving them a deeper understanding of the culture and customs of English-speaking countries.

5 Conclusion

The introduction of digital technology can not only optimize and expand teaching resources, but also provide students with more diversified learning materials. It can also innovate teaching methods, stimulate students' learning interest and enthusiasm, and improve teaching effect. At the same time, digital technology can enhance the learning experience and effectiveness of students to meet their diverse needs.

Conflicts of interest

The author declares no conflicts of interest regarding the publication of this paper.

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