

Exploration on Cultivating Applied Innovative Talents from the Perspective of English Subject Competitions

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Abstract: English Subject Competitions are important learning activities which play vital roles in improving students' English level, enhancing students' innovative abilities and strengthening students' hands-on skills. However, there are many problems in organizing English subject competitions, such as lack of innovation, single evaluation criteria and priority over awards. So, in the author's eyes, competition contents, competition forms and assessment should be improved. We should innovate the contents, diversify the forms and have comprehensive assessment systems of English subject competitions. In the process of competitions, practical activities and innovative competitions should be introduced to make the competition closer to real life in order to stimulate students' innovative potentials. At the same time, the evaluation criteria should be more comprehensive, focusing not only on the evaluation of students' language abilities, but also on the evaluation of students' innovation abilities and practical skills. Prizing setting should be more diversified, emphasizing both academic achievements and practicality. With the above measures, the competitions will be more conducive to cultivating applied innovation talents and promoting the comprehensive development of students.

Keywords: English subject competitions, application and innovation, quality education, assessment system, multi-organizational diversity

Introduction

English is a global language that plays a crucial role in modern society. English teaching in various countries has always been a concern for the education sector. English is an important part of English teaching in China, and English competitions are the ways of stimulating students' interest in learning English and cultivating their English abilities. But with the development of the times and changes in educational concepts, simple assessment on language proficiency for students doesn't meet the requirements of the times because the demand for students' creativity and the practical use of English is increasing. Therefore, this paper intends to conduct preliminary research on competitions promoting the cultivation of applied innovative talents from three aspects: competition introduction, problem analysis, and practical exploration.

1. Introduction of English competitions

1.1 Diversification of competition forms

English competitions include various forms such as the National College English Competition, English Speech Competition, English Writing Competition, English Reading Competition, English Debate and Translation Competition,

and Intercultural Competence Test, providing students with the opportunity to fully demonstrate their English proficiency. The English Speech Contest aims to cultivate the language expression ability of students and improved their English oral proficiency. The National College English Competition is a test of students' mastery of listening, reading, writing, and translation abilities. Students can choose a certain competition format based on their hobbies and strengths.

1.2 Stimulating students' enthusiasm for learning English

English subject competitions arouse the enthusiasm of students to learn English, making them more actively engaged in English learning. The competitions provides students with various platforms to showcase their English proficiency and stimulate their learning motivation. By participating in competitions, students can timely experience their progress in English, thereby enhancing their sense of achievement and confidence in learning. The essence of competition is to stimulate students' competitiveness and make them put in a lot of effort in English. The interaction and communication in competitions help students to broaden their horizons and arouse their enthusiasm for learning English.

1.3 Standard evaluation criteria

Clear evaluation criteria often are established to ensure fairness and objectivity in the evaluation. From the perspectives of correct grammar, vocabulary usage, and clear logic, all contestants can find clear learning objectives. In English teaching, grammar accuracy is an important criterion to measure whether students have good grammar ability. The vocabulary usage tests whether they are able to use vocabulary accurately and properly. Strong logic emphasizes that students should be organized when expressing their opinions.

At the same time, English proficiency can also be comprehensively evaluated from several perspectives such as pronunciation accuracy, intonation, and facial expressions. Based on these standardized evaluation criteria, students can clearly recognize their strengths and weaknesses in various fields, thereby Involving in learning better and improvement. Moreover, a unified evaluation standard has been established to ensure the fairness and objectivity of the competition, creating a fair and just arena for participants. The standardization of evaluation standards plays a very important role in promoting the smooth progress of competitions and improving the quality of students themselves.

2. The problem of English competitions promoting the cultivation of applied innovative talents

2.1 Lack of innovative elements

At present, many English competitions are language-centered, focusing on the application of knowledge, and there is relatively little training for students' creative thinking and practical application abilities, resulting in a lack of creative factors in the competition. The traditional competition focuses on language skills and basic knowledge, while neglecting the cultivation of innovation and hands-on skills. Therefore, competition organizations can focus on competition content, competition format, innovative thinking, and practical applications. On the one hand, it examines the English language advantages of the contestants, while also selecting students with innovative thinking and strong problem-solving abilities.

2.2 Single evaluation criterion

The evaluation criteria of the competition focus on the use of grammar, vocabulary, and other aspects, without considering the creativity and practical application ability of students, resulting in a relatively simple measurement that cannot comprehensively evaluate the overall quality of students. In China, the current evaluation of English teaching quality mainly focuses on mastering basic English knowledge. In a sense, it reflects the actual level of English teaching, while ignoring the role of creative thinking and practical application in practical situations. Therefore, the organizers of the competition must adjust the evaluation criteria and incorporate more considerations related to creativity and practical application.

When comprehensively evaluating the creative qualities of students, a comprehensive evaluation should be conducted from several aspects such as logical thinking, problem-solving ability, and creative performance. At the same time,

attention should also be paid to the practical application ability of students, such as the ability to use language in specific situations and the comprehensive application ability of multiple disciplines. This evaluation criterion can reflect the overall quality of students and promote their comprehensive development, too.

2.3 Priority on awards and honors

Some competitions place excessive emphasis on awards and honors, resulting in a focus on students' grades of English and neglecting students' all-aspects quality improvement and long-term development. Pursuing various awards and honors blindly can easily make students focus on exams and overlook the improvement of their English proficiency. In such an environment, many people spend their time and effort pursuing grades, while neglecting the mastery of English. Therefore, competition organizers should balance the reward system appropriately, attach importance to the long-term effectiveness of English teaching for students, and focus on improving the overall quality of students, rather than blindly pursuing rankings and honors. It can make students pay more attention to their studies, rather than just chasing various awards and honors.

3. Practical exploration on promoting the training of applied innovative talents through English subject competitions

3.1 Innovative content setting

Reforming the teaching content and assessment indicators of competitions, incorporating creative elements and practical aspects into the teaching process, is an important measure to enhance the creativity of college students. The organizers of the competition can add some questions related real life for students to answer in English, exercising their creative thinking and problem-solving skills. At the same time, attention should also be paid to cultivating students' comprehensive qualities in creative thinking, hands-on operation, and comprehensive application of English. This change can not only enrich the content of the competition, but also improve the overall English quality of students, laying a good foundation for future teaching reform and improving teaching quality.

3.2 Diversified competition forms

By organizing various competitions, such as English Design Competitions, English Creation Competitions, etc., students can effectively exercise their creative thinking and hands-on skills. Participating in competitions, students can apply English to specific engineering design, creative activities, etc., fully demonstrating their creativity and language skills. This competition method can not only improve the English proficiency of students, but also enhance their practical application level. On the other hand, diversified competition methods can allow more people to join the competition to adapt to their needs and hobbies, and promote the better development of English teaching.

3.3 Comprehensive evaluation system

Building a complete evaluation system can comprehensively evaluate the overall quality of students, emphasizing not only language expression and understanding of knowledge, but also their innovative ability and teamwork spirit. This evaluation method can more accurately reflect the overall level and development level of English teaching.

Evaluation should be based on students' oral expression, writing style, scheme design style, and team collaboration style. Among them, speaking and writing tests examine students ability of English usage, while program design tests figure out students' creativity and practical application of English. This complete evaluation system can comprehensively evaluate the overall quality of students, thereby guiding their learning and development.

To build an effective comprehensive evaluation system, it is necessary to involve multiple forces such as education experts, teachers, and industry experts to develop a set of evaluation criteria and methods that are suitable for both modern educational concepts and social requirements. Priority to the fairness and objectivity of the evaluation, make ensure that the evaluation results truly reflect the actual level and ability of the trainees. Through this comprehensive evaluation, it is beneficial to improve the overall quality of students and meet the requirements of adapting to society and social

development.

4. Conclusion

English subject competitions have played significant roles in improving students' English proficiency, but the forms and contents of competitions need to be reformed accordingly due to the changes of times. The experimental exploration method adopted in this article has opened up a new path for the development of English subject competitions. In the teaching process, new evaluation criteria and test design can be adopted, such as designing task-based questions based on actual situations, allowing students to apply English to practical life. By using modern technological means such as online platforms and virtual competitions, we aim to expand the scale of participation and strengthen communication and collaboration among students. By conducting interdisciplinary competitions, English can be integrated with other disciplines to improve students' comprehensive and interdisciplinary literacy. This exploration not only injects new vitality into the competition, but also provides students with more opportunities to showcase themselves, thereby promoting the depth and all-round development of English. This article aims to make a positive contribution to the cultivation of high-quality talents in China through the training of students' practical application and innovation abilities.

Conflicts of interest

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

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