

CHALLENGES IN LEARNING ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE

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Learning English as a foreign language has become an essential skill in today's globalized world. Many learners face various difficulties while acquiring the language, including linguistic, psychological, and environmental challenges. This paper discusses the most common challenges students encounter and suggests possible solutions to improve English language learning.

Key words: Grammatical rules, similar spellings, speaking skills, slow progress, positive mindset, making mistakes, phrasal verbs, idiomatic expressions.

One of the major obstacles in learning English is its complex grammar system. Unlike many other languages, English has irregular verb forms, intricate sentence structures, and numerous exceptions to grammatical rules. Pronunciation and spelling inconsistencies further complicate the learning process. For instance, words like "though," "through," and "tough" have different pronunciations despite similar spellings. Additionally, phrasal verbs and idiomatic expressions often confuse learners because their meanings do not correspond directly to the individual words. Many students struggle with confidence and fear of making mistakes when speaking English. Anxiety and lack of motivation can significantly hinder language acquisition. Some learners experience communication apprehension, which prevents them from actively participating in conversations. Moreover, perfectionism can discourage students from practicing speaking skills due to the fear of errors.

Limited exposure to English in a non-English-speaking environment is another major issue. In many countries, students do not have opportunities to practice the language outside the classroom. The teaching methodology also plays a crucial role in language acquisition. Traditional methods that emphasize rote memorization rather than interactive learning fail to engage students effectively. A lack of qualified teachers and insufficient access to authentic English materials further contribute to slow progress. To overcome these challenges, learners should adopt effective language-learning strategies. Engaging in immersive experiences, such as watching English movies, listening to podcasts, and reading books, can enhance language acquisition. Practicing speaking with native or fluent speakers can boost confidence and fluency. Schools and institutions should implement interactive teaching methods, including

group discussions, role-plays, and project-based learning. Additionally, students should cultivate a positive mindset and embrace mistakes as a part of the learning process

Conclusion ,despite the challenges, learning English is an achievable goal with the right strategies and mindset. By addressing linguistic, psychological, and environmental barriers, learners can enhance their English proficiency and become confident communicators. Educators should also play a pivotal role in creating a supportive learning environment that fosters language development.

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