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## English for Professional Students

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### **Abstract**

*English is the most commonly used language among foreign language speakers. It is the dominant business language and it has almost become a necessity for people to speak English if they are to enter a global workforce, research from all over the world and so on. Its importance in the global market place, therefore, cannot be understated; learning English really can change one's life. Good communication skills are essential in all aspects of life. The purpose of communication is to get a message across others that involve both the sender of the message and the receiver. A message is successful only when both the sender and the receiver perceive it in the same way. Nowadays, the ability to communicate well in English is an essential quality that the professional students need to get placed and survive in a multinational company. Those with strong English language skills will become employable much faster than that of with only Basic English skills. So, it has become mandatory for the professional students to master the language to excel both personally and professionally. This paper clearly projects the importance of English language for the professional students and also suggests some guidelines to master the Language.*

**Keywords:** English, Communication, Importance, Guidelines

## **INTRODUCTION**

English is an international language. English is the language of the Constitution, the Supreme Court, the High Courts and official departments. It is also a link language because different people can communicate with one another with the help of English. Even, all advanced knowledge in science, technology and medicine is available in English. The results of the latest researches come to India through the medium of English. If we give up English, we will lag behind in the higher fields of study. Today the world has become one family. It is all due to English. For non-native English users, Knowing English allows people to enjoy their life and work no matter where they are. For engineering students whose mother tongue is not English, mastering English is even more important, not only for their academic life but also for their prospective career. This paper not only brings out the importance of English for the professional students (Engineering) but also suggest some of the guidelines to improve the English language.

## **IMPORTANCE OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE FOR THE ENGINEERING STUDENTS:**

English is very important because it is widely spoken all around the world. In order to master the engineering knowledge and skills better, engineering students should own the English language competence. Most of the scientific papers or journals in the world are written in English. Most of the engineering graphs are also marked in English. Moreover, most engineering professors in various universities deliver their lectures in English. English plays a major role in the engineering field. So it has become mandatory for an engineering student to master atleast the basic English ability to deal with the countless English lectures, tutorials, labs, projects and papers. Finally, they have to submit their important theses, still in English.

When engineering students graduate from the college and become real engineers, they will find that English appears even more crucial than it used to be. Engineers usually work in groups since their task can seldom be solved by an individual. The property of their work determines that being an engineer needs to cooperate and communicate with different people from different part of the world. For non-native English speakers, unfortunately, most of the engineers speak English as the first language or the working language. Engineers have to speak good English, in order to understand and coordinate with their colleagues and accomplish their projects fluently.

Non-native English engineering students should try hard to improve their English ability, which would help them to excel both personally and professionally.

## **ENGLISH - A TOOL FOR EMPLOYABILITY:**

Nowadays, the ability to use a language efficiently is very much required to remain employable. Employability is the ability to remain employable as a result of the relevant skills one possesses. Communication skills are very much essential for one's professional growth. The ability to express fluently in both written as well as oral form of language is very much essential for the career growth.

As it is stated above, English being the most commonly used language in the corporate world; the knowledge of English is one of the most important employability skills. Knowledge of English is much sought after in the corporate world. Proper English does not mean only the ability to make grammatically correct sentences. It means other related skills for effective communication like presentation skills, convincing and negotiation skills and interpersonal skills using that language. For engineering students, English acts as a tool for employability. It is a known fact that in the effective use of any language, the four basic communication skills such as Listening, Reading, and Speaking & Writing play a vital role. In today's competitive world, LSRW skills provide the right key to success and play a predominant role in student's life which would help them to shine both in personal and professional life.

### **GUIDELINES TO IMPROVE ENGLISH LANGUAGE SKILLS:**

English has gained importance as one of the basic requirements to be employable in the corporate sectors. So it has become mandatory that an engineering student should master all the four basic skills (i.e. LSRW skills) to be employed in corporate sectors. The following are the some of the guidelines that can be followed by the professional to improve LSRW skills.

### **GUIDELINES TO IMPROVE LISTENING SKILLS:**

Listening is one of the receptive skills and the basic skill that all should master to be a good communicator. When you listen to a lecture, you need to follow the following guidelines to equip your Listening skill better.

Focus on content, not delivery.

Face the speaker and maintain eye contact.

Focus on using inviting body language.

Try not to get ahead of the speaker by finishing his or her thoughts in your mind before the person is finished speaking

Participate in active listening by encouraging the speaker with nods and affirmative words.

Paraphrase and repeat what you heard when it's your turn to talk. Don't interrupt – If you're interrupting the person speaking to get your point across, you're not listening.

Ask questions or request examples for clarification and to get a better understanding of what is being said.

Stop doing other things — fidgeting, texting, reading, etc., — while someone is speaking to you.

Ask open ended questions.

Pay close attention to a speaker's body language – posture, eye movement and facial expressions. This will give you cues to the meaning behind the words being spoken and what he or she is really trying to convey.

The other ways to improve your listening skills are listening to BBC News, English movies, English songs etc

### **GUIDELINES TO IMPROVE SPEAKING SKILLS:**

Speaking is one of the productive skills which plays a predominant role in our day today life. The following are the some of the exciting ways to learn speaking and make the learning process fun!

1. Speak, Speak, and Speak in English.
2. Use Google Translate for pronunciation.
3. Listen to news bulletins and songs in English to listen to the pronunciation of words.
4. Read Out Loud: Read the newspaper or a magazine out to yourself.
5. Learn a new word everyday and practice it in different sentences. Use the word until you have learnt it and keep using it regularly.
6. Watch movies in English and pay attention to new vocabulary and pronunciation.
7. Make Friends. Talk with them about things that you have learnt and exchange ideas.
8. Do Interesting Activities in English. Anything you enjoy doing, make sure you do it and communicate it in English.
9. Have a debate with your friends in English. Try to use as much vocabulary as you can to get your point across.
10. Use a Dictionary.

### **GUIDELINES TO IMPROVE READING SKILLS:**

Reading is one of the receptive skills which all should do to improve our vocabulary. Vocabulary is the key for mastering English language. The following are some of the tips to improve Reading skills.

Preparing for Reading:

Initially select some books like children's book, a newspaper article, a short story books , or something on wiki how .Then find a place to read where you can concentrate. A proper schedule can be prepared to read

Implementing the basics of Reading improvement:

Begin your reading by looking at the pictures, or listening to the music to get a feel for what you are going to be reading about. You can start with titles, names, or other larger print items that you may know or ever thought about. While you are reading, Read the page carefully. Don't rush, take your time. And also sound out each letter as best you can and you will notice they form some sort of word.

Advancing your Reading Skills:

Read as much as you are able to do. When you start getting bored or need a break, take one. Reading should be fun and enjoyable, don't force it. After your break, return to where you were, and continue. Keep reading. Try to read as much as you can on your free time.

Reading will help you in lots of ways; your vocabulary will become larger and more sophisticated and you will notice your grades change for the better. Have fun reading!

### **GUIDELINES TO IMPROVE WRITING SKILLS:**

Strong writing skills in English come from practice and determination. No one is born as an excellent writer. Learning to be an excellent writer in English takes a lot of time and practice. Anyone can be a good writer if they are determined enough.

Below are 8 Tips to Improve Your English Writing Skills:

1. Keep all of your Writing in one place
2. Practice Writing in English daily
3. Pick a topic and WRITE!
4. Write more than one draft
5. Use Online Resources to correct your Grammar
6. Think outside the box (or Lines)
7. Have a friend to edit your Writing
8. Find the best place for you to write.

Writing is a process; the more you work on your writing the better it (and you) will get.

### **CONCLUSION:**

In today's scenario, having good English language skills is a must. English is becoming the language of the world and all of us have to keep up to it. For an engineer and engineering student, English language fluency is important both in studies and career. So, it has become mandatory for a professional student especially an engineering student to master English language. Developing communication skills (LSRW Skills) can help all aspects of one's life, from professional life to social gatherings and everything in between. It's never too late to work on your communication skills and by doing so improve your quality of life.

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