

## ENGLISH IN EDUCATION

*Alijonova Mohira Murodjon qizi**Uzbekistan state world languages university***ABSTRACT**

The role of English is very important in education. The teaching and learning process always involves English. This is important because English is an international language, so like it or not, we are required to be able to speak English. English as an international language that allows us to communicate with many people from different countries. Moreover, in the learning process we are always looking for a lot of information. This information can be obtained from various sources, most of which use English as the language of instruction. There are so many benefits and important role of English in education. Therefore, in this article the author will describe English in education in more detail.

**Keywords :** English, Education, Important

**INTRODUCTION**

English is an international language used by many countries as the main language. When opening certain applications or websites on the internet, they often use English as the language of instruction. Along with the development of modern technology and science as well as scientific discoveries papers, most of which are published in English (Ratna Rintaningrum, 2020). English has become the 'default' language in many aspects of life. Even now, in terms of education, there are many classes or schools that use English as the language of instruction. Although in Indonesia, English is a foreign language, it occupies important role in the daily life of our society. This is clearly seen in education in Indonesia. English is one of the subjects taught for students from elementary to college level.

The current problem is the use of English properly and correctly in Indonesia very low. Even though English carries a name Indonesia is better known internationally because of the potential this country has can be communicated properly using the international language. In addition, there is still an assumption that the Indonesian people who speaking English is considered not nationalist, even though it is an assumption that is not true. Indonesia is a developing country, so it is still must follow the international world that makes English as the language international.

There is no doubt that English is a social language international. English is spoken at an official session of the United Nations Nation (UN). English is also used as the standard language of aviation international. Wherever we go around the world, we will be served the use of English for the first time at the airport of the country we

are going to. This proves that English is very widely spoken. Because of that, Learning English is a necessity. In Indonesia, learn English is still something very difficult for most people, and even sometimes scary for some people. Even though English language skills are important for one's competitiveness. With good English skills, With good competitiveness, someone will have good values that are useful for the country. But that doesn't mean we have to forget Indonesian which has become the national language. Based on research conducted by the World Education Institute, English First (EF) announced the first comprehensive report, on the index English proficiency or EF English Proficiency Index (EF EPI) in 44 countries. English proficiency in Indonesia is very low at 34. The EF EPI is the first index that comparing the English proficiency of adults in different countries. This index uses unique test data (custom methodology) on more than two million people in 44 countries, who used free online tests over a period of three years from 2007 to 2009 (Fisher, 2011). The low level of English language skills of Indonesian people is related to education. In Indonesia, English is only learned in school but not used in daily life. That's why English in Indonesia in general taught as a foreign language. The term 'foreign language' in language teaching different from the 'second language'. A foreign language is an unspoken language as a means of communication in certain countries where the language is taught. While the second language is a language that is not the main language but is one of the languages the language used in general in a country. So, the status of language as mother tongue, language second, and foreign languages will also have an impact on the goals of a language to learn.

English as a foreign language means English only used as learning in an institution education, both formal educational institutions and non-formal educational institutions. English is not used as a language in social life and is not the basic language in a country (Tomlinson, 2005). This shows that English is only learned in theory and science only. This contradicts the concept of language learning where to learn a language learns 4 skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. As students who are involved in education, we need to change perceptions in learning English. If language is a skill to use, then use it English in real life is the key to success in mastering the language. Example: a student who has a lot of vocabulary is not necessarily can speak or understand English well, a student who memorizes everything types of tenses or grammar may not necessarily be able to write English well, and a student who knows a lot of English expressions may not necessarily be able to use appropriately.

In this modern world full of challenges and super tough competition, everyone who is advised not only has a high level of education, but also special training that we commonly call 'skills'. One of the 'skills' that are most needed today is English. By seeing this positive feedbacks, students at university level suppose to be mastering or

at least know how to utilize it, especially when it comes to speaking and writing English due to a high demand (Ratna Rintaningrum, 2016).

### Conclusion

English as an international language is important to learn. However, currently the ability of English in Indonesia is very low. Low English proficiency related to education. English is only used for learning at school, but it is not used in everyday life causing English to become a foreign language. Therefore, as students who are involved in the world of education, we need to change perceptions in learning English. We must not only have a high level of education, but also skills. One of the most needed 'skills' today is English.

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