

# A Study on the Integration of College English Teaching and the Humanities Education

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**Abstract.** The loss of the humanities education has become one of the serious defects of modern higher education, and this phenomenon has caused widespread concern in academic circles all over the world. Based on the author's study and practice, this paper first explained the basic concept of humanistic education, then discussed the necessity of humanities education in College English teaching, finally, put forward the strategies to integrate the College English teaching and the humanities education.

## Introduction

College education should aim at promoting the overall and harmonious development of human beings to lay a solid foundation for social progress. As an important part of Higher Education, College English also bears the important task of leading social culture, shouldering the mission of cultivating qualified talents for the society, and it is an indispensable position of human cultural heritage, humanistic education and personality shaping, so, what is the relationship between College English and humanities education? How to implement humanistic education in English teaching? These are the urgent problems to be solved in the current college English teaching, but also new topics in the new era, therefore, it is necessary to put the humanistic education on a newer and higher level to study.

## An Interpretation for Humanistic Education

Humanistic quality is an inherent quality of talents, and it includes knowledge, ability, idea, emotion and so on. Humanistic quality is the core of the comprehensive quality of modern people, which can be cultivated and improved gradually. It has a great impact on people's thinking mode, moral sentiment and even the spirit of innovation. Humanistic quality mainly includes two parts: humanistic knowledge and humanistic spirit. Humanistic knowledge is the basic knowledge in the field of human culture, such as historical knowledge, literary knowledge, legal knowledge, art knowledge, philosophical knowledge, religious knowledge, moral knowledge, language knowledge. Humanistic spirit is a kind of inner spiritual quality, which is formed by the accumulation of human outstanding culture. It is mainly about the quality and accomplishment of ideology and morality, values, beliefs and beliefs, personality and so on. The spirit of humanism is to promote the value of human beings, to defend the dignity of human beings, to develop human potential, to cultivate the perfect personality, to create a healthy body and mind. Humanistic spirit is not only built on the humanistic knowledge, but also implied in the practice of scientific knowledge and scientific spirit.

## The Necessity of Humanities Education in College English Teaching

**The coming of Globalization puts forward higher requirements for the quality of talents.** In addition to have a solid scientific and cultural knowledge and the ability to use them,

the qualified personnel also should have some excellent quality, therefore, English teaching should not only reflect its tool function, but also reflect its humanity beyond the tool function, and it is necessary to take man's all-round development as its starting point and end result. The purpose of English teaching is not only the training of students' listening, speaking, reading, writing and translating ability, but also the ability to cultivate students' intercultural communication. We should infiltrate humanistic education in English Teaching and carry on the humanities quality education to the student combined with teaching content. The content of humanistic quality education can be designed to the scene and activities, so that education is specific and throughout the whole process of teaching. The influence on the students is subtle and lasting, contributing to the development of students' body and mind, and the formation of personality. Understanding the difference of cultural thoughts from the deep level is of great significance to cultivate high-quality talents.

**It can stimulate students' interest in learning and cultivate cross-cultural awareness.**

Simple language teaching is boring, so students may lose interest in learning as time goes on. If there is not enough cultural guidance and teaching, it is difficult to have a sense of English language and cross-cultural awareness. The teaching only taking the language as a tool is bound to mask the true meaning of language education, and such language learning is a lack of soul teaching. After learning all kinds of cultural knowledge, students can gradually expand the scope of language expression, enrich the content of language expression, improve the level of language expression, and enhance the ability of language expression. Therefore, strengthening the humanistic education in English teaching and the integrating language teaching with culture education are helpful for students to broaden the contact surface, and they can also stimulate students' interest in learning, develop their potential, so as to achieve the purpose of improving teaching quality.

### **The Strategies to Integrate the College English Teaching and the Humanities Education**

**Change the teaching idea, pay attention to the unity of tool and humanity.** The long-term exam oriented education makes the teachers pay too much attention to the teaching of English language skills, while ignoring the humanistic education. This kind of artificial separation of "skills" and "humanities" practice makes students can not really understand the cultural connotation of the language, so it is difficult to improve the quality of humanity. In order to change the traditional teaching methods, we should change the teachers' teaching ideas, integrate humanistic education in College English teaching, and pay attention to the humanistic factors in College English teaching. It is necessary to change the former teaching methods and learning methods to stimulate students' interest in learning English, so that students learn to appreciate the spirit of humanism, and they can be nurtured by the humanistic spirit, so that students can be changed from passive learning into active learning.

**Give full play to the advantages of teaching materials and implement the humanistic education.** To implement the humanistic education, we must give full play to the advantages of teaching materials and grasp the theme in text as a whole. Now, the Integrated Coursebook of the New Century College English Coursebook Series pays much attention on the corresponding progress between the humanistic quality and the ability of using English. Its theme has close relationship with the objects, such as the formation and development of students' personality at colleges and universities, the relationship between human and society and how to achieve self value. But in actual teaching, teachers focus on the utilitarian and light humanities education; moreover, teachers lay the emphasis on expressions of the language points without grasping the theme on the whole, which has not only play the advantages of teaching materials with ignoring of cultivating the democracy, justice, ideal, value for the students, but also this is one of the

important reasons led to weary of the students' English learning. In order to promote college English teaching, teachers should give full play to material advantage and implement the humanistic education.

**Update teaching means and improve the validity of humanistic information education.**

Colleges and universities should regard advanced teaching technology such as multimedia and network as their means to implement the humanistic education. Multimedia can combine images, text, sound, animation as a whole, which not only can be accepted and understood by people for its vivid images, but also can stimulate various sensory organs. Making teaching multimedia courseware before the class with relevant humanistic contents can improve and updates teachers' teaching level; Making full use of electronic, video and other data with increasing the amount of information in teaching can also cultivate students' cultural awareness and improve humanistic information education validity. The Internet is an important means of accessing the information, also is the main channel for learning knowledge. The teacher should collect and organize popular audio and video materials according to the cultural learning content; At the same time, they should ask students to search the related topics on the Internet and make courseware so that the students can understand the cultural connotation from different angles and wide ranges. In the process of searching for the information and making courseware, students can unconsciously accept English culture and improve their cultural quality.

**Strengthen the humanistic care and create a good teacher-student relationship.**

Traditional college English teaching is lack of humanistic care for students in the classroom teaching, and the biggest drawback lies in the neglect of students' emotional states, which in turn will greatly influence the teaching effect. The famous American linguist Krashen proposed the "Affective Filter Hypothesis", which thought that even there are many proper inputs for learner, it does not mean that learners can learn the language. The second language acquisition also effected by emotional factors. Learners in the learning process will produce a psychological barrier to absorb language and hinder themselves to output what they have already understood, which is also difficult to apply it into linguistic practice. Traditional college English teaching is lack of humanistic care for students in teaching and the biggest disadvantage lies in the neglect of students' emotional states, which will in turn will greatly influence the teaching effect.

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## Summary

Cultivating and improving the humanistic quality of college students is a systematic project in the reform and development of higher education in China in 21st Century. College English course should give full play to the advantages of the humanities curriculum and teaching resources, with the purpose of establishing a higher level of comprehensive quality training objectives in English teaching works so that integrating humanistic quality education into English teaching and the two can be combined organically. In teaching, we should not only teach grammar knowledge and vocabulary knowledge, but also improve students' abilities of listening, speaking, reading, writing and translating; further, we should pay more attention to the cultural connotation and humanistic value of the textbook and pay more attention to the subtle influence of them so that to guide students to understand the concept of history, values, aesthetics, and cultivate their humanistic qualities.

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