

Cultivation of Critical Thinking Ability in English Writing Teaching

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Abstract: Critical thinking is an important part of the overall quality of college students. The cultivation of critical thinking has been established as one of the goals pursued by modern education. Critical thinking is applied to English writing teaching, which enhances the effectiveness of analysis, enhances the logic of writing, and determines the individualization of writing. It can be applied to paragraphs and chapter structures. According to the relevant theoretical basis and practical needs, this paper puts forward the strategy of training critical thinking ability in English writing teaching. Specific strategies include cultivating critical thinking into innovative thinking, strengthening metacognitive strategy training, using brainstorming methods appropriately, examining critical chapters with critical thinking, choosing authentic writing and reading, using a diversified feedback model that combines content and form.

1. Introduction

The goal of college English teaching is to develop students' English application ability. Language skills are an important part of language use ability, including listening, speaking, reading and writing, as well as the comprehensive application of these skills. Listening and reading are comprehension skills and speaking and writing are expression skills. As a form of written expression, English writing is getting more and more attention. It is a comprehensive reflection of the ability of English language use and a reflection of the degree of English learning. English writing course teaching, from the analysis of the characteristics of English words, sentences, paragraphs and articles, let students understand and master the English writing words, sentence structure and the characteristics of paragraphs and chapters; students through the sample reading and their own writing practice, Systematically master the basic knowledge and basic skills of English writing, proficiently write a variety of English application texts, improve the ability of written expression, and strive to achieve accurate words, correct grammar, and express the habit of complying with English; through teaching to lay a solid English written Express basic skills and lay the foundation for cultivating compound foreign language talents.

The critical thinking of modern education was first proposed by American educator and pragmatist philosopher Dewey. He believes that critical thinking is a kind of lasting and thoughtful thinking ability. It is the individual's thinking on the basis of all beliefs and assumptions to fully mobilize their own logical thinking. Critical thinking can also be regarded as a kind of reflective thinking, a process of continuous and active thinking, and through careful thinking, to achieve any belief in the mind. Critical thinking values the individual's ability to think and judge independently, and it does not believe in others' opinions. It emphasizes the judgments made by their own analysis and argumentation, and ultimately makes the choices they deem appropriate. Comprehensive analysis means that critical thinking requires individuals to learn to reflect, to think about the issues raised, and to connect with the actual objective evaluation. Critical thinking is a kind of ability that can be cultivated through the day after tomorrow. With the emphasis on quality education, many colleges and universities have begun to attach importance to the cultivation of students' critical thinking.

In the information age, critical thinking is an important part of the overall quality of college students. Critical thinking training has been established as one of the goals pursued by modern

education. Writing is the most effective course to cultivate critical thinking. Because writing itself is a form of activity of critical thinking, it is a process of creating cognition and thinking. From the conception, conception and writing of articles, to revision and improvement, we need to apply critical thinking. But for many years, the cultivation of critical thinking of college students is the bottleneck of English writing teaching. Due to the influence of language curing mode and test-oriented orientation, writing teaching usually pays too much attention to the correctness of language expression, emphasizes the patterning of the structure of the article, and causes the content to be neglected. The critical thinking of students in the writing process is not taken seriously, and the result is Although the written articles are structurally complete, the content is generally lacking in space and lacks ideological vitality. High-quality composition requires not only accurate grammar and complete structure, but also rational and ingenious conceiving and enriching content, and substantial content is the result of critical thinking actually. It could be seen that in the process of English writing teaching, it is necessary not only to cultivate students' language skills and writing skills, but also to promote the formation of students' critical thinking.

2. Significance of Cultivating College Students' Critical Thinking

Cultivating critical thinking is of great significance to the growth of college students, mainly reflected in the following aspects:

(1) Improve the creativity of college students. In the face of complex problems, many students cannot reason and think through established conditions without the ability to think independently. Critical thinking is a necessary premise for independent thinking. Only by criticizing things can we rethink and recognize things, discover the characteristics and essence of things, and propose new problems. Creativity is a series of continuous and complex high-level psychological activities, the ability to generate new ideas, discover and create new things, and the psychological qualities necessary to successfully complete a creative activity. Critical thinking can provide a higher level of thinking activity for creativity.

(2) Improve the ability of college students to write English. English writing is a personal act that requires the support and support of ideas. What kind of articles can be written, in addition to their own English level, is also influenced by thinking and opinions. Only by using critical thinking can we write articles with clear viewpoints, clear structure, reasonable layout, adequate discussion, prominent themes, and strong logic. Therefore, in the teaching of college English writing, students' critical thinking is cultivated, and students are allowed to use critical thinking to analyze problems and solve general problems.

(3) Promote the development of self-learning habits of college students. Self-directed learning is a modern learning method that corresponds to traditional acceptance learning and is the key to enhancing individual survival skills. The cultivation of critical thinking ability is to cultivate students' self-learning skills with the aim of solving problems and self-management. By guiding students to ask questions about things, they form a good habit of self-reflection. Cultivating students' critical thinking skills enables students to learn independently and think independently and solve problems.

3. Expression of Critical Thinking in Writing

The height of thinking determines the depth of writing. Critical thinking is reflected in the following aspects in writing:

(1) Strengthen the effectiveness of the analysis. The core of critical thinking is to learn to analyze, that is, to learn to classify, identify, compare, clarify, analyze, distinguish and interpret, and effectively analyze the topic. Analysis is a prelude to writing, a process of personal reflection, and a prerequisite for generating unique perspectives. Analytical skills are the foundation of critical thinking and an important part of developing critical thinking skills in writing.

(2) Enhance the logic of writing. Writing under the guidance of critical thinking follows the whole process of logical thinking of asking questions, analyzing problems, thinking about problems

and solving problems. Unlike conventional propositional essays, critical thinking writing provides materials that students need to read on their own to identify valuable topics for analysis, reflection, and writing. Therefore, the logical order of writing is consistent with the order of thinking.

(3) Determined the personalization of writing. Language is the outer shell of thinking, and writing is a way to record this process of thinking. Critical thinking is a process of active thinking. It is based on personal thinking. There are no ready-made templates that can be applied or imitated, but a process that stems from deep thinking. Critical thinking is applied to writing and expresses individual insights. Because each person's way of thinking, focus and social experience are different, the views expressed are also original, which is the value of writing.

4. Application of Critical Thinking in Writing

Critical thinking runs through the college English writing process and is mainly used in the following two aspects:

(1) The application in the paragraph. Paragraphs generally clarify the basic ideas through the topic sentences, and the remaining sentences are details, and the topic sentences are extended or demonstrated. A good topic sentence is a complete sentence, and it must be clearly and concretely expressed. The topic sentence can be placed anywhere in the paragraph, but it is usually placed at the beginning of the sentence. Critical thinking skills are needed to judge what is a valid topic sentence and what is an invalid topic sentence. Then check whether the sentences that make up the paragraph are related to each other in content and expand around the theme.

(2) Application in the chapter structure. The chapter structure refers to the way of arranging plots and organizing materials, and is the organization and structure within the article, which directly affects the expression effect. A good chapter structure makes the theme stand out, the content level is clear, and the materials are natural. How the chapter structure is arranged reflects the author's way of thinking and reflecting objective things. Therefore, when constructing a chapter structure, it is very important to train thinking logic and organization. It is necessary to arrange the structure according to the development law and internal relationship of objective things, and also obey the needs of the performance theme.

5. Training Strategies of Critical Thinking Ability in English Writing Teaching

To cultivate students' critical thinking ability in English writing teaching, we should explore from the aspects of teaching concept, teaching content, teaching methods and evaluation feedback, surpassing lower levels of memory and imitation, and better use analysis and reasoning under the guidance of teachers. And to evaluate the high-level thinking mode, not only to write articles with deep content, but also to develop good thinking habits in the process of learning, and to promote the development of critical thinking skills while acquiring language skills.

(1) Cultivate critical thinking consciousness. Teachers and students, as the two most important subjects in the teaching process, should be familiar with the entire teaching system. Teachers should be familiar with the relevant concepts and theories of critical thinking, continuously learn and cultivate the critical thinking consciousness, and apply it rationally and skillfully to daily teaching, reflect on the teaching content and teaching links, and construct college English writing and critical thinking. The combined teaching system teaches students relevant knowledge of critical thinking, enables students to understand the composition and evaluation criteria of critical thinking, help students correctly apply and strengthen relevant content in the writing process, and cultivate students' critical thinking, better Write in English.

(2) Critical thinking is integrated into innovative thinking. Critical thinking influences innovative thinking to a large extent. Critical thinking and innovative thinking are not only mutually supportive, but also complement each other at a certain level. From the perspective of critical thinking, English writing must pay attention to the speculative nature of the text body. Writing teaching with critical thinking can play a more significant teaching effect and play a positive role in cultivating students' critical thinking ability. In English writing, we should create a scene, incorporate certain writing

components, and achieve a creative description of the authentic scene. Repetitive content is tedious, and incorporating creative ingredients inspires students.

(3) Strengthen the cultivation of metacognitive strategies. Metacognition is the category of psychological research and has become an important part of learning strategy research. The core meaning of metacognition is cognition of cognition, self-consciousness, self-experience, self-regulation and self-monitoring of individuals' own cognitive activities. Specifically in the study, students reflect the learning process, monitor the learning process and evaluate the learning outcomes, and comprehensively monitor, adjust and reflect on their own learning. By cultivating metacognitive strategies, students can self-regulate and monitor pre-write ideas, post-reflection and post-post evaluations, and promote critical thinking skills.

(4) Proper use of brainstorming. Brainstorming is usually in the form of meetings or group discussions, allowing participants to inspire each other, complement each other, brainstorm ideas, and stimulate different perspectives and opinions in a pleasant and free atmosphere. The use of brainstorming in teaching helps students find the best solutions to promote creativity and critical thinking skills. Before brainstorming, students develop diversified thinking based on their own experiences and experiences. Students collide with each other in thought. By collecting different opinions and opinions, deepen the topic of the article, enrich the content of the article, and improve the logic of the article. Strengthen the ability of text planning and ultimately improve the level of English writing.

(5) Examine the structure of the text with critical thinking. Critical thinking requires that in the teaching of English writing, pay attention to the diversity of language and the accuracy of expression, to ensure that the words are accurate and reasonable, in line with context and expression needs. At the same time, it is also adept to apply different words and sentences to express similar meanings, and to promote expression skills and writing skills. Avoid a lot of vocabulary repetition and be flexible in applying rich vocabulary. Multiple sentences such as simple sentences, parallel sentences, and master-slave compound sentences are used alternately. Cleverly matching long and short sentences, imperative sentences, declarative sentences, exclamatory sentences and interrogative sentences, the sentence expression becomes flexible and diverse, with rhythm and beauty, and promotes the improvement of writing level.

(6) Select the authentic writing topic. Humanistic theory holds that teaching activities should give learners sufficiently time to think, fully experience to experience, and encourage learners to practice and explore. The choice of authenticity in English writing, the practical problems encountered in the life of a particular student, guiding students to explore, and finding ways to solve problems can enrich the emotional experience of students and inspire the ability to think independently. Teachers can also guide students to use controversial topics for writing exercises, which can help improve students' critical thinking skills.

(7) Combination of reading and writing. The combination of reading and writing teaching mode can stimulate students' writing motivation and significantly promote the development of writing ability and writing abstract thinking. Teachers select reading materials with moderate difficulty and diverse themes to design a variety of teaching tasks. When reading the article, ask the students to understand the themes that the author wants to convey, challenge or question some opinions, and deeply explore the root of the problem. In the writing stage, the teacher guides the students according to the original writing purpose and logical relationship, according to the language they have mastered. A knowledge and writing strategy that uses critical thinking to reconstruct or summarize the information read.

(8) A diversified feedback model that combines content and form. Feedback is an important part of writing. It is limited to the feedback of language error correction. It is difficult to improve English writing ability. Critical writing teaching requires a diversified feedback model that takes into both content and form. Teachers develop evaluation criteria based on the core elements of critical thinking, guiding students from focusing on micro-language expression errors to higher levels of content and ideas, from the accuracy of concepts, the validity of arguments, the rigor of arguments and reasoning. The logic and other aspects help students to grasp the macroscopically

and stimulate students' initiative and critical thinking. Students use the guidance of teachers to form judgment standards for writing tasks, and constantly revise and improve according to standards. The diversified feedback mode of content and form is conducive to promoting students' active learning and participation enthusiasm, learning critical writing and critical revision, embodying critical teaching ideas, promoting students' critical thinking development, and promoting English writing ability. And overall improvement in critical thinking.

6. Conclusion

As one of the hotspots of modern education research, critical thinking is an effective way to improve the overall quality of college students. In college English teaching, the idea of attaching importance to language skills and ignoring thinking training has attracted the attention of the foreign language community. English teaching should not only improve students' language skills, but also design appropriate activities to promote students' active thinking, play the main role of students, guide students to analyze their own viewpoints and ideas through problems, and cultivate students' critical thinking. College English writing teaching should pay attention to the cultivation of critical thinking ability. For students, whether it is the writing process or the process of asking questions, cognitive problems and solving problems, they need to understand and make final judgments. Critical thinking requires students to reflect and judge other people's thinking and opinions, and then put forward their own views. Innovation can only be achieved by integrating critical thinking into the writing process.

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