

Study on the Influence of Sustained Silent Reading on Primary Students' English Reading Literacy

Lina Zhou^{1*}, Lei Zhao²

¹Baicheng Normal University, Baicheng, Jilin, 137000

²Mingren Primary School, Baicheng Jilin, 137000

*Corresponding author

Keywords: Sustained Silent Reading; Primary School English; Reading Literacy

Abstract: As an applied language discipline, English is the same as Chinese. Listening, speaking, reading and writing are the four basic abilities to support its application. For English learning, reading is always a very important skill, and it is not only used to cope with the exam and read the test questions, but also an important way for students to acquire knowledge, which is also the most direct and effective way to inherit civilization. This paper mainly studies the concept of sustained silent reading, the importance of teaching English reading to primary school students and its practical application. It can provide some help and inspiration to the researchers in the field of teaching of English reading in primary schools.

1. Introduction

Primary school is a very important part in the stage of life learning. Its main function is to lay a solid foundation for higher-level learning in the future, so that students can master learning methods and teachers can cultivate students' discipline core literacy. For English teaching, reading teaching is always the focus and difficulty of the subject. The so-called English reading literacy means not only to know the content of the article, but also to ensure the reading speed, grasp the structure and connotation of the article, and get more useful information from the reading content, including new words. Sustained silent reading is a good way to cultivate pupils' English reading quality.

2. Concept and connotation of sustained silent reading

So-called sustained silent reading is the literal translation of English "Sustained Silent Reading" (abbreviation as SSR), and the idea of Sustaining in English is not so much the persistence as the regularity and stability of the silent reading. That is to say, the persistence emphasized by the silent reading is not the continuity in time, but the continuity in the cycle. Generally speaking, the reading materials selected in the sustained silent reading teaching should be based on students' own preference. However, in view of the age characteristics of primary school students, teachers will give some help to students when they choose reading materials, or help them to define the range, or guide them to make the right choice.

Sustained Silent Reading is actually to help students to establish reading habits, master reading methods. Any kind of language learning will need reading ability as the support, English is no exception. If one wants to really learn English well, he should read a lot of extra-curricular reading materials. This is because textbook knowledge is very limited. As the most widely used language in the world, English is the official language of the world. In different countries, different cultures and different semantic languages, there are also many differences. Texts often teach us grammar, but the presentation of foreign cultures is often the tip of the iceberg. Only when students develop the habit

of reading can they truly understand the culture and history of the English-speaking countries and master English. In addition, a large number of new words in extracurricular reading are also very important knowledge acquisition channels which are natural channels for pupils to expand their vocabulary.

3. Significance of sustained silent reading to the cultivation of English reading quality of primary school students

3.1 Vocabulary increase

If we say that English learning is like building a tall building, then words are the bricks. English is a widely used language discipline in which the role of words is equivalent to that of Chinese characters, which is the basis of expression, communication, reading and writing.

The channel for pupils to expand their vocabulary is usually through classroom learning, which is very stable. Because in the teaching process, English words as new words are treated importantly and will be repeated for many times. However, only a few hundred new words can be learned in a semester, which is a drop in the ocean compared with the huge amount of words in English. But through the way of sustained silent reading of extracurricular materials, the acquisition and learning channels of stable new words have been increased, and students' vocabulary has naturally been steadily improved. As shown in figure 1:

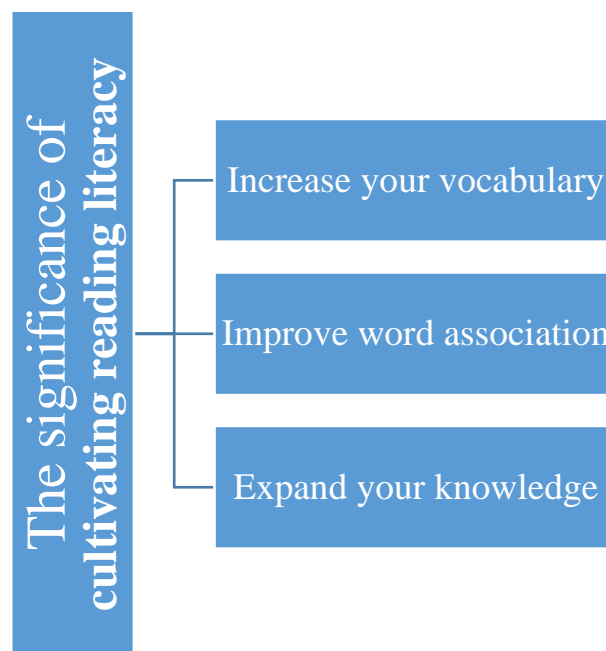


Figure 1 Significance of cultivating reading literacy

3.2 Improved word association ability

The ability of word meaning association is one of the core abilities of primary school students' reading literacy. The reason why word association ability is so important for primary school students is that the vocabulary of primary school students is still less density of some new words increase, which will greatly affect students' reading speed and comprehension of the articles. At this time, many students may prepare an English-Chinese dictionary nearby, but in fact, English words and Chinese characters have the combination of a certain rule. When reading the article, according

to the context, we can also "guess" the meaning of these words. After reading, students can carry out verification, which not only won't affect the reading, but also can make the memory of new words more profound. It can be said of killing many birds with one stone.

3.3 Expanding the scope of knowledge

The expansion of knowledge means the improvement of vision, which is very important for primary school students. In primary school, due to limited access to information, in most of the English-speaking countries, especially, their culture and environment are very different from our native environment. Through sustained silent reading, students can learn more about the culture, customs, environment and history of western countries. It can be said that for primary school students, sustained silent reading makes them more knowledgeable.

4. Specific application measures of sustained silent reading in English reading teaching in primary schools

4.1 Maintain a sense of normality

Because there is no uniform textbook for continuous silent reading, it is difficult to carry out objective assessment. The classroom effect depends entirely on students' enthusiasm and attention. In order to improve the teaching effect of continuous silent reading, teachers should first take the initiative to attach importance to continuous silent reading and carry it out as a course. We should value more on the normality. See figure 2

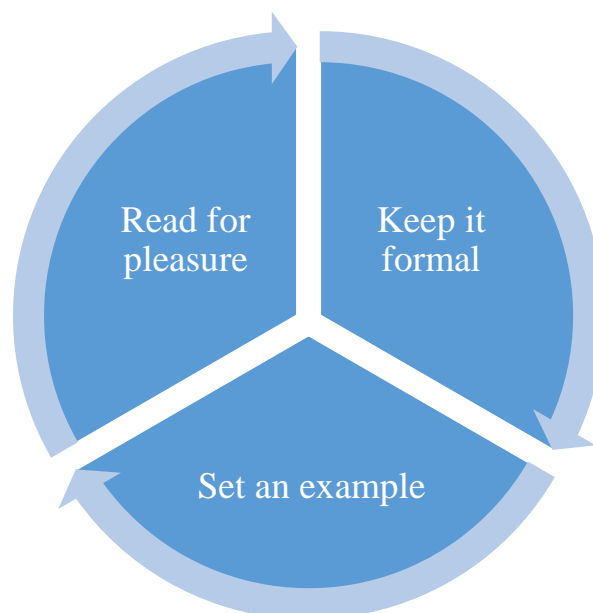


Figure 2 Apply measures

4.2 Teachers set a good example

As mentioned above, it is difficult for us Chinese to master both English vocabulary and the culture of English-speaking countries. Teachers also have great knowledge blindness and do not master all the new words. In the process of carrying out continuous silent reading teaching, teachers can also carry out silent reading learning, and then actively share their gains with students, which is

not only a good example, but also a kind of improvement for themselves.

4.3 Develop happy reading

Sustained silent reading itself is very boring, which is why few teachers will unify the textbooks or reading content, mainly being fear of causing students' resistance. Teachers can try to use the Internet to collect some simple foreign articles, news and stories for students to choose and read. They can also buy some foreign children's classic primer books and put them in the classroom for students to choose, so as to enhance students' interest in reading.

5. Conclusion

In a word, with the increasing importance of China's role in the world, China's exchanges with other countries in the political, economic and cultural fields will become more and more frequent. Learning English well is the demand of our society for talents in the future. Many people say that junior middle school is the golden age for the development of children's English reading literacy, but as a language, it should be the earlier the better. Carrying out sustained silent reading in primary school can improve students' language sense and vocabulary and broaden their knowledge, which is also one of the methods worth popularizing.

Acknowledgement

Teaching Research Project of Basic Education in Jilin Province "Study on the Influence of Sustained Silent Reading on the Development of Pupils' Reading Literacy" (JLSJY2017Z022)

References:

- [1] Fei Wen, Ye Ke, Zheng Taoyun. To improve students' English reading ability based on continuous silent reading [J]. Reading and writing (educational journal), 2018, 15(4): 9-10.
- [2] Wang Qiang, Aonaren Tuya. Ways and methods of teaching English picture books in primary and secondary schools [J]. Courses, textbooks and teaching methods, 2017, 37(4): 68-73.
- [3] Wu Aijiao. A comparative study of "continuous silent reading" and "exam-oriented reading" in improving high school students' English reading literacy [J]. English Teacher, 2016, 16(17): 14-23.
- [4] Zhang Yuwei. The influence of continuous silent reading on English reading in high school students [J]. English Teacher, 2018, 18(14): 62-67.