

UNIT - I

Learner-centered Teaching

Teachers help learners develop the social and thinking strategies they need to work successfully as individual, in pairs or in groups.

- * Activities in which the focus is on learners' own work are learner-centered.

Learner centered Teaching Definition :

- * Learners work independently for the cause of the teacher,
- * Learner-centered activities may be individual, pair small group or large group.
- * Large group activities may be less effective, because there is less responsibility for each learner

Advantages of Learner-centered Activities

- * Gives learners time to think and prepare.
- * All learners can participate and speak, even so on less confident learners.
- * Learners learn to cooperate and help each other.
- * Learners aren't afraid to speak in a group.
- * Lets the teacher explain and check comprehension of a few learners at a time.
- * More like real life communication.

Problems occur during learners working in groups

or pairs :

- * Learners speak their L1.
- * Some groups finish first.
- * Learners may be noisy.
- * Some learners don't do the task.
- * Groups don't listen to each other report answers.

Strategies used to make group or pair work more effective :

- * Successful group and pair work requires training and practice - the first times a teacher uses group or pair work it may be frustrating or confusing.
- * Teacher should move around the room and monitor learners to be sure they understand the task and are working.
- * Teacher can train learners in the social skills like turn taking, Respecting the opinions of other learners. **Speaking with quiet voices.**
- * Give a reasonable time limit.
- * Give instructions first, then divide into groups.
- * Assign roles to group members.
 - i) choose only the roles you need for the activity.
 - ii) Explain the responsibilities of each role.

3) Teach the language that learners need to fulfill each role.

* Give different tasks to different groups

* Arranging the classroom.

1) Move the tables and chairs so that learners can work in groups easily.

How learner-centered should a lesson be?

* A lesson that presents new information may be more teacher-centered.

* A lesson that practices or reviews familiar information should be more learner-centered.

* In general, classes should be at least 50% learner-centered.

Roles for Group Work:

a. Timekeeper - makes sure the group finishes on time.

b. Reader - reads the text or questions to the group

c. Secretary/
scribe/
recorder

- Writes down the group's ideas

d. Leader - Makes sure that everyone is taking turns and answering questions

e. Encourager - encourages learner to participate

f. presenter/

spokesperson/speaker - presents the group's ideas to the class.

g. Monitor

- makes sure that the group completes the task and speaks in English.