



Methodology of Developing of Pupils' Lexical Competence Through Comics in Primary English Classes

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Abstract: This article explores the methodology of developing pupils' lexical competence through the use of comics in primary English classes. Lexical competence, a key component of language proficiency, is crucial for young learners to effectively communicate and comprehend English. Comics offer a unique blend of visual and textual elements that can engage pupils and enhance their vocabulary acquisition. The article discusses the importance of lexical competence, the benefits of using comics in language learning, and a structured methodology for incorporating comics into vocabulary development activities. By following this methodology, educators can create a dynamic and interactive learning environment that fosters pupils' lexical competence.

Keywords: Comics, Elementary School, English Language, Lexical Competence, Motivation, Method, Story, Image, Character, Text, Picture.

Introduction

In primary English lessons, it refers to a procedure that uses comics to assist pupils increase their lexical competence, learn to explain words and their meanings, and grasp language-related materials. This method allows pupils to compare interesting and serious topics in a fun and serious way. Comics also allow pupils to reinforce skills through visual learning. Comics are commonly distributed programs that tell a story using a combination of images and text. Their main purpose is to provide people with interesting, humorous, learning and enjoyment opportunities when they are read (McCloud & Martin, 1993).

In primary English classes, fostering pupils' lexical competence is essential for their language development. One innovative and engaging approach to achieve this goal is through the use of comics. Comics offer a unique blend of visual and textual elements that can captivate young learners' interest and enhance their vocabulary acquisition (Eisner, 2008). This article explores the methodology of using comics to develop pupils' lexical competence in primary English classes.

Methodology

Importance of Lexical Competence:

- Define lexical competence and its significance in language learning.
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- Explain how a strong vocabulary foundation contributes to overall language proficiency.
- Highlight the challenges primary pupils may face in building their lexical competence.

Benefits of Using Comics:

- Discuss the advantages of incorporating comics in language learning.
- Explain how visuals in comics aid in comprehension and retention of vocabulary.
- Explore how comics can make learning more engaging and enjoyable for young learners (Eisner, 2008).

Methodology of Using Comics for Vocabulary Development:

- Selecting Appropriate Comics:
- Choose age-appropriate comics with engaging storylines and relevant vocabulary.
- Consider cultural sensitivity and diversity in comic selection (Van Lente, 2012).

Pre-Reading Activities:

- Introduce key vocabulary from the comic through visuals or simple definitions.
- Engage pupils in predicting the storyline based on the comic's visuals.

During Reading Activities:

- Encourage pupils to read the comic independently or in pairs.
- Prompt pupils to identify and underline new vocabulary words they encounter.

Post-Reading Activities:

- Facilitate discussions on the comic's plot, characters, and themes.
- in sentences.

Assessing Lexical Competence:

- Suggest methods for assessing pupils' vocabulary knowledge and retention.
- Provide examples of formative and summative assessment tasks related to comics-based vocabulary learning.

Best Practices and Tips:

- Offer practical tips for integrating comics into primary English classes effectively.
- Emphasize the importance
- Conduct vocabulary exercises such as matching words to their meanings or using new words of creating a supportive and interactive learning environment.
- Developing pupils' lexical competence through comics in primary English classes involves a structured approach that integrates visual storytelling with vocabulary acquisition. Here is an expanded overview of the methodology:

"Selecting Appropriate Comics"

- Choose age-appropriate comics that align with the language proficiency level of the pupils.
- Consider comics with clear visuals, engaging storylines, and relevant vocabulary for primary learners.

1. Select comics that feature diverse characters and cultural contexts to promote inclusivity and broaden pupils' exposure.
2. *"Pre-Reading Activities"*:
 - Introduce key vocabulary words from the comic through visuals, context clues, or simple definitions.
 - Engage pupils in discussions about the comic's cover, title, and illustrations to generate interest and activate prior knowledge.
 - Encourage pupils to make predictions about the storyline based on the visual cues in the comic.
3. *"During Reading Activities"*:
 - Have pupils read the comic individually, in pairs, or in small groups to promote active engagement with the text.
 - Encourage pupils to identify and underline new vocabulary words as they encounter them in the comic.
 - Provide opportunities for pupils to discuss the plot, characters, and themes of the comic to deepen comprehension and vocabulary retention.
4. *"Post-Reading Activities"*
 - Facilitate vocabulary exercises such as matching words to their meanings, creating sentences using new vocabulary, or categorizing words by theme. a deep- Encourage pupils to retell the comic's storyline using the newly acquired vocabulary.
 - Incorporate creative tasks like comic strip creation or character dialogues to reinforce vocabulary use in context.
5. *"Assessment of Lexical Competence"*:
 - Design formative assessments that gauge pupils' understanding of the comic's vocabulary through quizzes, games, or group activities.
 - Implement summative assessments that evaluate pupils' vocabulary retention and application in writing tasks or presentations.
 - Provide constructive feedback to pupils to guide their vocabulary development and reinforce learning outcomes.
6. *"Integration and Reflection"*:
 - Integrate comics-based activities into the broader English curriculum to reinforce vocabulary learning across different skills (reading, writing, speaking, listening).
 - Encourage pupils to reflect on their vocabulary growth and identify strategies that work best for them in expanding their lexical competence.
 - Continuously assess and adjust the methodology based on student feedback and progress to optimize learning outcomes.

Result and Discussion

By following this comprehensive methodology, educators can effectively leverage comics as a valuable tool for developing pupils' lexical competence in primary English classes, fostering a dynamic and engaging learning environment that supports language

acquisition and proficiency(Edi, 2017; Gual, 2023; Gutierrez-Franco, 2018; Maja, 2019; Martinez-Roig, 2022; Mu, 2023; Omar, 2020).

The selection of age-appropriate comics is paramount in ensuring that pupils are not only entertained but also exposed to vocabulary that is relevant and accessible to their language proficiency level(Arslan, 2023; Buczek-Zawiła, 2021; Choi, 2014; Kamaruddin, 2023; Schlieckmann, 2024; Zen, 2018). By carefully curating comics with engaging storylines, diverse characters, and culturally inclusive themes, educators can pique pupils' interest and facilitate a deeper connection with the language being learned(Xenofontos, 2022).

The structured approach of pre-reading, during reading, and post-reading activities serves as a scaffolding mechanism for pupils to interact with and internalize new vocabulary(Kamaruddin, 2023; Rivas, 2023). Through pre-reading activities that introduce key words and concepts, pupils are primed to engage with the material actively. During reading activities, pupils have the opportunity to encounter new vocabulary in context, fostering r understanding of word meanings and usage(Cheung, 2021; Coburn, 2024; Erarslan, 2019; Hargreaves, 2021; Schmid, 2024; Udaa, 2019; Uztosun, 2016). Post-reading activities allow pupils to consolidate their learning through reflection, discussion, and application of vocabulary in various contexts.

Discussions

Effective assessment strategies play a crucial role in measuring pupils' progress and understanding of the vocabulary presented through comics. Formative assessments, such as quizzes, games, and group activities, provide ongoing feedback to guide instruction and support student learning. Summative assessments offer opportunities for pupils to showcase their vocabulary retention and application in more formalized tasks, such as writing assignments or presentations (Howe, 2012). By integrating comics into the English curriculum, educators can create a multi-dimensional learning experience that not only enhances pupils' lexical competence but also fosters creativity, critical thinking, and cultural awareness (Tojiddinovna, 2024). Comics serve as a bridge between language learning and real-world communication, enabling pupils to explore language in authentic contexts and develop the skills needed to effectively communicate in English (Eisner, 2008).

In embracing this methodology, educators can inspire a love for language learning, empower pupils to become confident and proficient English speakers, and lay the foundation for a lifelong journey of exploration and discovery through the power of words and visuals. Through continued innovation and adaptation, the integration of comics in primary English classes holds the potential to transform language learning experiences and cultivate a generation of enthusiastic, skilled, and culturally

Conclusion

Comics can be highly effective and engaging activity to develop pupils' lexical competence in primary English classes. By following a structured methodology that includes pre-reading, during reading, and post-reading activities, educators can enhance

pupils' vocabulary acquisition in a fun and interactive way. Embracing innovative approaches like comics can help create a dynamic learning environment that nurtures pupils' language skills and fosters a love for learning. The methodology of developing pupils' lexical competence through the use of comics in primary English classes represents a creative and effective approach to language learning. By harnessing the power of visual storytelling and integrating it with vocabulary acquisition activities, educators can create a vibrant and engaging learning environment that resonates with young learners.

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