The cultivation of critical thinking in College English Reading Teaching

Jia He^a, Peipei Dai

Changchun university of Science and Technology, Changchun, China

^ahj_julia@hotmail.com

Abstract

Reading is an important way of learning English, students focus on critical thinking in college English teaching of reading, how to help students form a unique cognitive skills, students of innovation and creative thinking ability has great significance. On the basis of analyzing the content of critical thinking and culture on the meaning of the Training Strategy in College English Reading Teaching, critical thinking is in the corresponding discussion.

Keywords

College English; reading teaching; critical thinking; cultivation; cultivation strategy.

1. Introduction

Critical thinking is an important basis of innovative thinking, the students who only have a batch of thinking, will be more apt to have proactive thinking problems, to find the problem and solve the problem. However, in the teaching of English reading in our country, the teachers pay more attention to the teaching of vocabulary and grammar, and neglect the cultivation of students' critical thinking. It put too much emphasis on the content of the text. Under the influence of the simple "acceptance" reading teaching mode, the students' critical thinking and creative thinking can not be effectively played, which can restrain the development of students' innovation ability, which is not conducive to the comprehensive development of students' comprehensive quality. Therefore, in College English reading teaching, teachers should pay attention to the cultivation of students' critical thinking, promote students' critical thinking, and guide students to develop their ability to innovate and promote students' all-round development.

2. The basic meaning of critical thinking and its training significance

2.1 The basic meaning of critical thinking

Criticism, translated as "critical", from the roots to explain the Greek "kriticos "(a discerning judge) and" kritireion "(standard) two words. In the oxford Dictionary of English, "critical" means"on literary or artistic works of exquisite and shortcomings to make analysis, identify and judge". For the definition of critical thinking, the academic circles at home and abroad have different opinions about it. Famous Chinese scholar Huang Huaxin and Fang Pingpu believe critical thinking is a kind of personalized thinking, the basic premise is suspicion, observation and experiment, with the quality of this thinking, often dare to say challenge. Ennis (R.Ennis), a pioneer in the American critical thinking movement, believes that critical thinking is the "individual's right to do and what to do to make a reasonable decision-making capacity," stressed the personal judgment. John Dewy, the father of modern critical thinking, the thinking of the "I" is "a kind of belief or preference of a kind of knowledge, from its dependence on the basis and may draw conclusions".

College English Reading Teaching in the cultivation of critical thinking, mainly aim to the student in the reading material and the content of the text, to form their own unique views and opinions, not superstitious authority, does not follow the old saying, not just parroting critically and didactically rational view of the problem, analyzing problem, and see through the appearance to the essence, grasp the essential characteristics of things, training students' thinking ability of broad, profound and critical, the cultivation of students' innovative ability.

2.2 On the cultivation of critical thinking in College English Reading Teaching

It is very important to pay attention to the cultivation of students' critical thinking in college reading teaching. College English reading as a highly active and creative activities, on the one hand, students can combine their existing knowledge and experience, according to their critical intelligence to screen, identify, classification, evaluation, forming a unique cognitive ability, on the other hand, through a series of distinguish authenticity, guess the teaching activity, can make students more active in learning, so as to stimulate students interest in learning, mobilize the enthusiasm of students. Second, it is helpful to cultivate the creative thinking of college students. Critical thinking is the important basis and the original power of creative thinking, there is no creation, the students only in the process of critical thinking, can learn self reflection, question inquiry, bold imagination, and then take the initiative to find the problem, to explore the solution of the problem. Therefore, in this sense, pay attention to the cultivation of students' critical thinking, which is helpful to develop students' innovative thinking. Third, it is helpful to improve the students' ability to adapt to the modern information society. In today's world, science and technology change with each new day, the information resources become the most important strategic resources. A person who want to be successful, first of all depends on his acquisition, analysis and processing capacity of useful information, and all this requires us to use critical thinking to identify, filter, judge these information. Therefore, to pay attention to the cultivation of students' critical thinking is the inevitable requirement of the information society, and it is helpful to improve the students' ability to adapt to the modern information society.

3. The cultivation of critical thinking in College English Reading Teaching

3.1 Create a good learning atmosphere, stimulate students' critical thinking

Cultivate students' critical thinking. We need to have a democratic, harmonious, relaxed, enjoyable learning atmosphere. Only in such a learning environment, students will feel respected and valued, will produce the desire to express freely, in order to actively invest in learning. Due to the influence of traditional teaching ideas, the teaching of College English reading teaching, most of the teacher's explanation as the main body, students can only passively accept the knowledge, lack of criticism and skepticism, and thus its critical thinking ability is difficult to be improved. Because of this, in College English reading teaching, to cultivate students' critical thinking ability, teachers must change teaching ideas, create a pragmatic, good at communication evaluation, willing to listen to different views of the good learning atmosphere and encourage students to read the volume boldly questioned, ask questions, guide students to explore hypotheses, clear up doubts, forming self with original insights. Of course, we should pay attention to the reading of the learning process, we can not think that the text of the view is the expert opinion can not be criticized, but should not be criticized, but should be based on their own experience and facts, to critically look at the text and the dialectical view of the text, to avoid students to produce "book based, expert first.

3.2 Carefully designed classroom teaching, training students' critical thinking

In the teaching of College English reading, teachers should design a reasonable classroom teaching activity, strengthen the students' critical thinking training, and promote the students' critical thinking ability. Including: (1) pre-reading, reasonable arrangement of the preview task, and guide students to preview text content. In the reading of the text, the teacher can give students in advance to arrange the learning task, so that students through the Internet, libraries and other channels to access and collect the contents of the relevant background knowledge, and students in the classroom on the information collected to communicate with each other, to explore, to prepare for the next reading. (2) in the process of reading, the teacher can first let the students browse the title, subtitle, and puts forward some thought questions, guide the students to actively thinking, put forward their own questions, and then make the students a strong desire to read. Then, let the students read the text quickly, identify key details. In the process of looking for reading, ask students to label difficult words, according to the meaning of the new words on the following. Then ask students to read the text, find out the topic

sentence, verify the contents of the forecast. Finally, the analysis of discourse structure, clear the article in the heart, the author of the writing intention, to oppose or agree with the author's views, and state the reasons, divergent thinking. (3) after the end of reading, students are required to make a thorough analysis of the article by comparing, inducing, deduction and evaluation. At the same time, teachers can also be combined to read the content of the theme skillfully debate activities, guide the students thinking, further deepening the students understanding of the content of the text, the cultivation of students' creative thinking ability.

3.3 Reasonable evaluation of learning activities, mobilize the enthusiasm and creativity of College Students

Reasonable and appropriate evaluation method has a certain influence on students' learning initiative and innovation spirit. Therefore, in the teaching of College English reading, to cultivate students' critical thinking, teachers also need to evaluate students' learning activities, the students' participation in learning process, the performance of the learning activities, in order to encourage evaluation, the formation of evaluation, diagnostic evaluation and evaluation of the organic combination, so that students can experience the success of self reflection, self summary, so as to improve themselves, to mobilize the enthusiasm and creativity of College students. In short, critical thinking, whether it is the development of students' personal ability, or the promotion of innovative education are playing a positive role in promoting. Therefore, in the practical teaching process, teachers should pay more attention to the cultivation of students' critical thinking, excellent teaching method, improve students' critical thinking ability, develop students' creative ability.

Acknowledgment

This paper is supported by Jilin Provincial Education Department "The Twelfth Five Year "social science research project " Cultivation of Critical Thinking Strategy in College English Reading Teaching"

References

- [1] Thomas F&Nelson Laird. About The California Critical Thinking Disposition Inventory[M]. Loomington: Indiana University Center for Post secondary Research. 1996.
- [2] Ennis R H."Critical Thinking Assessment"in Fasko, Critical Thinking and Reasoning [J]. Current Research Theory and Practice, 2003:383—385.
- [3] Raiskums B W An Analysis of the Concept Criticality in Adult Education [M]. Houston: Gulf Publishing Company,2008.