



Research Article

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Unwillingness of English Department Students to Show their Academic Abilities

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Abstract: The purpose of this paper was to find the reasons why talented students do not show their abilities as well as the ways to push them to reveal to their instructors in English Department. To conduct this research, 4 English Department Instructors, the member of Afghanistan Center at Kabul University and Mr. Sayed Ahmad Shah Sharifi, General Director of Afghanistan's psychologists were the main purpose to have interview with and find out the reasons and solutions. The results of the objectives of this study are explained in finding part. Moreover, all the recommendations and suggestions of the participants and the researcher are offered to English Department to consider SAL, TAL, TD, STM, SC, EDM, ED. Pub, Psychologists and SAC for ED.

Keywords: Ability, Motivation, Social and Academic Skills, Talent, Family.

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INTRODUCTION

Nowadays, English is getting very useful, important language for all its speakers and learners because all people, every day, around the world share their knowledge, experience, art works, experiments and discoveries which are written in English language. They translate the materials of their native language in English language and from English to their native Language. Also, English has been a proper source even than the mother language of non-native speakers of English Language in the field of research, literature, technology, medical sciences, business, sports and even nearly about all the academic issues which are related to learning. In addition, people who know English Language can be more successful than those who do not know. They have a little bit more chance than those who do not know because most international universities teach students in English. They can apply to scholarships without any difficulties. Fortunately, English Department has provided the opportunity for Afghan youths to learn variety of subjects in English language which develops students' abilities and skills. It makes students to connect to this this new world and use the facilities that English Language has made in this century.

Statement of the Problem

As an English Department student that I have been studying English language for three years, I have experienced and noticed that most of students have distinct abilities in their majors, but I have not known the reasons why they do not work on, do not have the motivation or even do not think that they are at the level

that they can be great writers, linguists, poets, translators, researchers, teachers, spokesmen, spokeswomen, journalists and so on. Fortunately, I have seen that there are a small number of students who write short story, poem, who translate English short story or other books, and who teach English Language for students of sub-departments, private courses and school students at their homes. They have very appreciable and important skills and ability regarding the subjects that they are learning, but they are needed to work on that, and to reveal their abilities for their instructors to help them. Moreover, my purpose of this research is regarding the reasons which have caused a large number of English Department students do not work on their abilities and skills, the ways that the instructors can distinguish these students and motivate them to show what they are interested to do, and the ways to increase the number of those students who work on their abilities because the instructors highly expect to have such great and hardworking students. In addition, I will find out what English Department of Kabul University and their instructors can do for these students so as to develop their abilities and know what is they are good at. Beside this, I will find out and provide some recommendations based on reasons for instructors to have their English Department students become the best students in Kabul University and even throughout the country.

Research Questions

- Why students do not want to show their abilities?
- How to make students show their abilities?

- How to distinguish these kinds of students?

LITERATURE REVIEW

It is common that teachers or an instructor in the world tries their best to teach students of different fields, and it is meaningless that they do not have any purpose for students. Their main aim is to make students be able to what they like or want to be in the future, and one day they honour of their student's abilities which shows whether instructor's tries have been successful or not. Furthermore, it is seen that most of students do not show their abilities and do not work on that while they are learning. According to different authors and researchers, the reasons why students are so are given, and some resolutions are suggested to consider.

Lack of Social and Academic Skills

Eleby (2009) stated that the reason is that these students do not have appropriate social and academic skills which are essential for them to show their abilities while they are educating and even during their life because when they do not have these two skills, they have not gotten their purposes although they highly wanted (p.7).

They Are Talented but Shy

Students have the ability of doing what they like or want, but they are shy. Due to this inherent habit, they do not dare to show their abilities as Azim (2018) has founded that they are shy students who even do not participate in lessons, and they are needed to a psychologist and to be with group of students who are not shy and active (P. 163).

They Are Needed to Be Motivated

Harmer (2007) mentioned that "It is accepted for most fields of learning that motivation is essential to success: that we have to want to do something to succeed at it. Without such motivation we will almost certainly fail to make the necessary effort" (p. 98).

Motivation Can Push Them to Show

The most fundamental reason that students do not show their ability is lack of motivation. Hence, motivation is the main cause to make students reveal their ability and talents. As Harmer (2007) Stated that "Motivation is some kind of internal drive which pushes someone to do things in order to achieve something" (p. 98).

Using Some Tasks to Identify Them

Harmer (2007) has asked that the instructors should identify the different talents and abilities of different students which they have. They should use some tasks which students are not needed to be talent linguistically, but they should let them to show the ability they have. For instance, they let students work on what they like. Students who are artists should be guided to draw a poster or wall chart. They let students

who are brilliant and good at science to work on scientific issues and texts. Beside this, let them to explain them for other students before reading that issues by other students. Also, students who are good at music, especially at recent music should be left to play that in group works. These are the ways as examples to let students work on the abilities they have. In addition, it gives the chance to every individual student to be great at the abilities they have. It is not any problem if some students are not good than their classmates linguistically. The instructors just let them to develop the talents they have (P. 129).

Adding Student's Talent Management in Curriculum

Veluchary *et al.* (2016) recommended that "Talent Management (STM) model should be implemented. Hence the management can identify the talent among students and guide them in a right path" (p.408).

Talent Department

Veluchary *et al.* (2016) has stated that "Creation of talent department in colleges, headed by the teachers or mentors who are capable enough to enlighten students can help them to hone their skills to become an entrepreneur" (p.3).

Creating Student Club

Veluchary *et al.* (2016) "Collaborations have never put any down but only made people grow further. Be it, business collaboration or the one with clubs" (p. 3).

Role of Parents to Increase the Number of Talented Students

Veluchary *et al.* (2016) "Parents also play a vital role in promoting talent. They should be always supportive, encouraging and helping their child to choose a right path. Parents should not make fulfil of their own ambition from their child. They should give the freedom to choose ambitions and motivate them to achieve the same" (p. 408).

In literature review, some important data are collected regarding the reasons why students do not show their abilities and talents they have, how to identify them and how to motivate such students to develop their abilities. These data are collected from one international writer and some international researchers. In addition, the reasons were not having social skill and academic study skills. In literature review, the reasons founded that students are shy, needed to motivation, and student's talent management, student's clubs, talent department and parent's support are the ways instructors can solve the problems. Also, these new mentioned plans are necessary to English Department to add in the curriculum due to find the talents, push them to show their abilities and to make

them develop and increase the number of talented students.

Research Design

To conduct this research, English Department, ACKU and department of psychology were the main focus regarding different purposes and questions for this study. 4 instructors of English Department, one member of ACKU and General Director of Afghanistan's psychologists were interviewed whom were both male and female. The instructors were teaching students different subjects in English Language for several years. Three were junior instructors and one was sophomore instructor.

To extract the data, the questions, which were provided for this research, were open ended questions. The interviewees were asked to respond the questions, and, when they understood the topic and the objects of the study, they got happy and content because the study was new and interesting for them. Also, They were asked some questions which were related to the main points, but the main objective of these questions were finding the reasons why students do not want to show their abilities, do not want to work on that and how to distinguish such students. Moreover, this study concentrated on the opinions, suggestions, and recommendations of instructors, the member of ACKU, and General director of Afghanistan's psychologists regarding how to make students to show their abilities and to develop them, how to distinguish such students, how to motivate them to become what they want such as writers, poets, linguists, translators, researchers, and so on. The data which were collected are analyzed and discussed in finding.

FINDINGS

The results of this study are the reasons why students do not want to show their abilities. These are answered by instructors regarding the problems and objectives of this study. Also, it provided some recommendations and ideas of instructors and the member of ACKU and General Director of Afghanistan's psychologists. All the points are mentioned clearly.

The Reasons Why Students Do Not Show Their Abilities

One of the instructors said that the most important reason is fear because students are afraid of making mistakes. They think that the instructors and their classmates will laugh at them if they make any mistake. Also, the students who write short stories or poets but do not show their works to their instructors or classmates is due to the negative emotions they have. They think they will be punished by their classmates and the instructors.

One of the instructors mentioned that the reasons are the schools they were, the department and

the families. They do not think they are not school students but they are university students and should have a specific purpose and try to get it. She also stated that Kankoor exam is also the reason because these students probably have liked other departments, and now they are forced to come.

In addition to this, an instructor told that these students have never been told and motivated by their family.

Moreover, regarding this problem General Director of Afghanistan's psychologists said that there are many reasons that these students do not show their abilities although they are talented. These students are brilliant and talented, but they are calm in the class. He added to the reasons, this is completely related to their school periods when they had faced to some difficult situations. For example, their classmates teased them and had not had proper behaviour, and always they probably laughed at him/her. Family has an important role while they probably do not concentrate on their abilities, never let them to talk at home. Also, there are other reasons such as economic, political, sociological problems. Furthermore, he explained that they are poor and under pressure, or they fear from the conditions and situations of the country they live, such as fear of Taliban, explosion, lack of security in country. They do not have social skills and are not able to speak among a group of people. When a teacher ask them to give a lecture or present a project, they do not do so or if they do, one can easily see the effects of fear because they cannot concentrate on what they are explaining or presenting with trembling in their bodies. Probably, they have lost their brothers, sisters, mothers, fathers or someone from their relatives.

Ways to Identify Students Having Distinct Abilities

Two of the instructors told that to identify students who have particular abilities, instructors always motivate them to show their abilities such as being writers, linguists, translators, researchers, poets and teachers. There should be contests for all these skills. For example, Contest for writers, poets, researchers and so on.

One of the instructors told that the instructors can identify them by asking what they like, what they are doing and what they want to become in the future. When the instructors understood their desires, they should motivate them to enhance their abilities.

The Number of Students whose Abilities Have Been Seen

One of the instructors mentioned that there is a student in English Department who has written a book in Pashto Language and translated a book from English to one of Afghan national Languages which will be published by the two next month. Also, there are a group of students who are translating a collection of

short stories in one of Afghan national Languages. Beside this, there are about 13 or 14 students who created a new group working on their teaching skills. Each individual student selects an issue and teach their classmates for 90 minutes when they are free. In addition to this, he told that these students among 500 or 600 students are not enough in a department.

The instructor said that there are some students who write poets, short stories and some translators. They write in Dari, Pashto and English Language.

All the instructors told that there are some other students who teach students of sub-departments English Language.

The Ways to Motivate and Increase the Number of these Kinds of Students

All the instructors said that they should be motivated by their families, instructors and English Department. They believe that the instructors have always motivated students, and English Department has had a plan which makes students teach other sub-departments. This plan is not written but orally existed due to motivate students learn teaching English practically. They told that there should be contests of writing short stories, poems, researches and so on, which will be proper ways of stimulating students show their abilities and increase talents.

Afghanistan Center at Kabul University A Place to Motivate Talented Students

The member of ACKU believed that ACKU is due to motivate students of literature to enhance their abilities because this academic area has a department by the name of ABLE which has about 170000 books. This department holds a contest for poets and writers to submit their books and short stories for participating to the contest it has. She told that they will publish the books and research papers chosen which are related to the culture of Afghanistan.

The Main Purposes of English Department

All the instructors stated that the main purpose of English department is to have such talented students in the future. This department has highly wanted to educate students to be good writers, translators, researchers and linguists.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The results of these data collected from literature review, English Department instructors, the member of Afghanistan Center at Kabul University and General Director of Afghanistan's psychologists show that students who do not show their abilities are related to their past memories, school days, fears, families, shyness, society, economic, politic and lack of social and academic study skills. As a result, they are needed

to be supported by their families, instructors and the department by motivation and some new plans in curriculum such as students' talent management, talent department, students' clubs and some contests for researchers, linguists, poets, short story writers and translators as these are the main purposes of English Department to make it the best department in Kabul University and even throughout the country. Fortunately, there some students are seen in English Department which shows the goals of respectable instructors and the department are gotten real; however, students are needed to be supported by the department.

Regarding the students who do not show their talents, one of the instructors recommended that they do not wait for their instructors although their instructors have always motivated them to get their goals and purposes. They should work on the abilities they have, and do not fear of their classmates and the instructors. They do as the other students who have created a new group working on their teaching skills.

One another instructor suggested that students do not be quiet and reveal their abilities and tell to their instructors to introduce them to the Department or even the chancellor office of Kabul University.

Another instructor asked students that they should work on their abilities beside their lessons and to show the talents they have.

General Director of Afghanistan's psychologists suggested for students that have these kinds of problems that they should improve their social skills and do sports which make them do not have any fear again. The instructors should let them give lectures, make them participate in webinars, workshops and ask them to stand in front of the mirror and see their negative points which does not let them show their abilities, talents and are thought as students who do not participate in lessons. Their parents, brothers and sisters play the most important roles to support them until they get self-confidence.

Regarding motivating students, all the instructors suggested contests of writing, short stories, poems, research projects, translating, and the same contests should be hold from now on.

The member of Afghanistan Center at Kabul University recommends talented students to join that academic area to enhance their talents and abilities in writing short stories and particularly in doing research where they can find everything they like or want very quickly. They have a good program by the name of Qab-e-Qisa, which students read a book during a weak and then ask questions from each other and share what they learn. She added that these plans are to promote the culture of reading and writing the books short stories, poems and doing research.

Finally, this paper suggests and recommends regarding making students to show their academic abilities, to motivate them and to make English Department as the unique department in Afghanistan. As there are students who write short stories and poems, or there are students who translate or research or do the same works, it is had better to English Department has a small Student's Ability Library (SAL) where students put their works as a present for the department, as well as a small Instructors' Ability Library in which the books and works of instructors should be placed, and students be able to borrow them to read and learn what the talents their instructors have. The department needs a psychologist, fortunately there is, and a publication to publish students' art works in the purpose of motivation. There should be student's clubs regarding the purposes the department has for students. Moreover, the department should have magazine to appreciate instructors' and students' art works and the talents or the abilities they have.

Conclusion

According to the problems that were existed in English Department, this paper collected data to solve the problem. Fortunately, the collection of data and analyzing were successful because it found the reasons why students do not show their abilities and how instructors can distinguish such students to motivate them and increase the number of such talented students who have been seen in the department. This paper found some new ways and techniques to make this department be different than other department of languages. Useful recommendations of English Department instructors, General Director of Afghanistan's psychologist, the member of Afghanistan

Center at Kabul University and the researcher of this paper have opened a new research about secret talents that English Department and the instructors should research practically. In addition, Student Ability Library, Teacher Ability Library, Talent Department, Students' Talent Management, Students' Club (Storytelling, Reading, Debate, Poem), English Department Publication of Journals and art works, English Department Magazine, Psychologists, and Students' Ability Contests (Short Story writing, Romans writing, Novel Writing, Poems writing etc.), which are the most important factors of making new changes in English Department of Kabul University that this paper has found.

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