

Study on the English News in Senior High School

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Abstract

Reading is one of the basic abilities in English learning. With the implementation of National English Curriculum Standards for general High School, the study of English reading has become a main content in senior high school. A lot of English teachers in senior high school have been doing researches on English reading, but the result is of little influence. In this study, the English news was introduced into the English reading in senior high school. Teachers should select resources that are close to students' level to improve their reading ability. The English news displays authentic English for senior high school students. Meanwhile, with more profound content, English news materials expand a new way for English reading teaching.

Keywords

English News; Senior English; English Reading; English Teaching.

1. Research Introduction

In China, the English news reading course is a new way to learn English. This teaching methods leads to resourceful results of English news reading. It is authentic news sources can largely arouse the learners' reading ability. This chapter introduces research background and research purpose. Although English reading teaching has greatly improved in senior high school nowadays, teachers in great numbers have realized the deficiency of reading ability for our students' development. Our teachers have difficulties in English reading teaching and students' English reading is hard to enhance, because English reading teaching materials are insufficient and knowledge is inaccurate. Furthermore, it is desirable for us to maintain the various reading teaching in recent years. From now on, living in an era of information, we are acquiring a variety of news, which are based on professional ideas. Students don't get the standard classroom design and teaching ways to consolidate their real English reading level. Besides, the good teaching content cultivate students critical thinking, arouse their enthusiasm for learning English reading, and help students' scores to move forward. So, how to enhance students' English ability is becoming more and more significant. What's more, we should attach more importance to developing students' interest.

In addition, National *English Curriculum Standards for general High School* emphasizes that using English news can improve the senior high school students' horizon in English reading. At the same time, the English news reading can cultivate students' critical mind and standard expressing in learning. English news supported by policy aims to propose new teaching ideas and carry out further researches. So colorful educational resources help students to study independently.

With our society developing faster and education becoming higher, teachers and students in growing numbers realize the importance of English news in English reading teaching. Obviously, a host of professors say that English news is of great significance in English reading teaching. All kinds of researches use the extracurricular English news materials reasonably in English reading class. The students' ability can improve remarkably in reading. Thus, this paper is groping for a new teaching in English reading learning.

Meanwhile, the English news is applied to the English reading teaching. Using the English news as new English reading materials can enhance the level of senior high school students. From the English news learning, students' interest can be developed. English news can enrich students' minds in English reading process. By doing this, teachers can cultivate the students' comprehensive quality in English reading teaching in senior high school.

2. Literature Review

In the 1930s, The Times, an American newspaper, widely reported that newspapers were used as effective teaching materials for language teaching. With the development of the times, people pay more and more attention to the teaching content, and an increasing number of scholars devoted to the study of the influence of newspapers and articles on teaching. In this chapter, the author collects the foreign and domestic research status.

News is a fresh report of events, facts or opinions that people did not know before they read the story. It is the reporting of anything timely which has importance to a considerable number of persons in a publication. Students can not learn English by translating simply word by word. A teacher should cultivate students' creative potentials, encouraging the students to learn. Students use a variety of English materials, which are based on English news that bring students great convenience and learning enthusiasm in English reading learning. At the same time, English news lays a solid foundation for students' learning, which can bring them a qualified education. Through comprehensive studying, students will endeavor to optimize their ability in society. English news offers an encyclopedic system of the English reading. It can enrich students' ideas, ensures them to go further on the way of study. The English news profound in itself informs us that professional words are the engine which drives the future, and a host of students can be naturally associated with the impact of English news on the future.

Domestic research on the application of English newspapers and magazines in English teaching started relatively late. A host of professors began to study the English news in the English reading class in the 1990s, which had great influence on the later researches. Liu Qizhong(2009) proposed that the English news can eliminate expression vague in introducing events in his *English-Chinese News Translation*. Senior high school students' thinking between Chinese and western culture can be trained by learning English. Guo Lei(2012) mentioned that English news teaching should use the perspective of communication. Expressions in English news are authoritative. It is greatly helpful for learners to master English language knowledge and reading ability in senior high school. If students enjoy watching television, then they can study English expressions in the CCTV News. Because we use this language widely, we must learn English in all the aspects. Professor Lin Qing(2015) believes that English news is better than traditional reading materials in teaching English. In English teaching, teachers use English news to enrich English learners' knowledge, and it reflects a culture, and social values in the context. Students can learn the correct expression of English news and understand western culture. His theory presented that the application of English news in senior high school English teaching can bring many scientific materials. Sun Dandan(2017) said that the application of English news is excellent teaching means that can arouse the interest of English learning in *the Application of English News Interview Production in English Teaching in Senior High School*. This new teaching is important to decide students' knowledge in English teaching class. In brief, it provides a lot of new words for students learning. Liu Zhenjun(2018) says that English news reading is essential for senior high school students to learn English in *A Strategic Study on English Reading Teaching in Senior High School*. English news is important for students to build the logical mind in English reading learning. So we should practice more English news for our English reading class. Students can attach more eye on English news to gain perfect English reading ability. At last, English news as a special tool plays a essential part for teachers to teach English reading.

Wang Zhuo mentioned in his paper *The Role of English News Teaching in the Communication of English Culture* in 2020 that reading English news can improve English reader's ability, and help the development of English learners in class. English news can affect students' cognition by something of political currents, human geography, economic culture, then it can arouse the interest of English learning.

In foreign countries English news has been used as teaching materials in class since the 1930s. A host of scholars and teachers started to use periodicals as learning materials for English reading class, which can largely boost the awareness of the educational career. L. Narang(1973) mentioned that English news plays an important role in studying English reading. In the development of English news in the senior high school, learning English news for our students is undoubtedly an important part that should be developed by all of us youngsters. Halliday(1977) says that English news can increase knowledge and definitely promote their reading ability. The English news can be selected according to the extent of the English textbook for senior high school students to improve knowledge ability. What's more, English news as English learning material will widely broaden our horizons. According to a recent survey by professors, it's known that learning English news gives us advanced knowledge. Jean-Paul Kouega(1999) believes that English news can make students more attractive among others in English reading teaching. English news is indispensable to maintain international logic during English reading. David B. Bracewell(2009) believes that one of the most significant factors in English reading is the student's understanding of the reading materials. Nobody can gain success in English learning without the assistance of English news. With our educational society developing increasingly faster, people realize that English news plays a significant role in their reading, writing and speaking.

According to the previous introduction, part three presents research design in senior high school students. To begin with, this chapter displays the research questions. After that, the research provides the participants. Through the tools for controlling variables and experimental design, the author presents research instruments. Ultimately, the author describe implementation of the experimental procedure.

According to the feature of English news, the author makes the research and test if English news is fit for English reading teaching. Therefore, the in this paper, the following questions will be handled:

1. Is English news better than traditional reading materials in improving student's English reading ability?
2. Is English news helpful in changing students' attitude towards English learning?

In this experiment, the author chose Tsining No.1 Middle School as the research place. The high school has 12000 students and 521 teachers. The author selected the students in Class 15 and Class 17 as the research objects, which were two parallel classes in the first grade. Class15 was experimental class, and Class 17 was control class, both of which had 45 students. They had the same English teacher. In the experimental class, English news was used as teaching materials, while in the control class, traditional reading materials were used. In order to ensure the authenticity in this research, a pretest were conducted in the two classes, and they had similar scores.

This research lasted three months totally. Teachers guided students in the experimental class to learn English news while in control class students only adapt traditional teaching materials. The author conducted two tests during the research, namely the pre-test and post-test (see Appendix I and II). The difficulty level accommodated to the students in the first grade of senior high school. There were three parts in the tests. The first part was to choose the best answers according to the passage. The second part was cloze test. And the third part was to fill in the

blanks with the right form of the given words. During the experiment, in order to show the equity and effectiveness, students wouldn't know these tests in advance.

The experimental materials should cultivate student's interest and help students' English scores. In this experiment, we can choose *China Daily*, *The Economist*, and so on as experimental materials, trying to improve the students' comprehensive, critical and logical thinking. These newspapers provide extensive passages and humorous articles which are fit for senior high school students. When students read the news, it can guide students to associate with the content in their textbooks. Students can use extra knowledge combined with traditional textbook knowledge to improve the understanding ability. This application includes a lot of authentic English news reading materials for teachers to choose, and teachers can select good articles in English teaching. Students and teachers can use the sentences in the news passages to summarize the new structure in class.

This experiment was conducted in three months. In the experimental class, the teacher used English news as reading materials while in the control class the teacher still used traditional reading teaching materials. Through the observation of students' behavior in class and analysis of their scores, the author wants to see if English news learning can improve students' reading ability.

The following is a sample lesson in the experimental class (The article can be seen in Appendix III).

In experimental class, the teacher selected the *Winning Combination* as reading materials, which had similar subject to My Favourite Sport in the textbook. Through reading the article, teachers can help students cultivate individual learning skills and encourage students to work together.

1. Teaching objectives:

Knowledge objective: Students will be able to use new words and phrases: championship, individual, selfness, conference, athlete, used to, focus on, be considered to

Ability Aims:

Students will be able to train their reading ability

Emotion Aims:

Students will be able to understand teamwork and learn to cooperate with others

2. Teaching procedures:

Step 1: Warm-up(3 min)

The teacher greeted students, and played a song for them. After listening the song students try to talk about the topic. In this way, the teacher can lead in the new unit, *Winning combination*.

Step 2: Pre-reading(7 min)

The teacher showed some pictures of NBA games, and students discussed sports and competition.

Step 3: While-reading(25 min)

(1) Fast reading

In this part, students read the passage in three minutes, and answer the question "what does passage mainly about? "

(2) Careful reading

In this part, students read the passage intensively. They also completed three tasks at the same time. Firstly, students divided the passage into several parts, and found the main structure of the passage. Then the teacher gave limited time for students to finish the reading practice (fill in bank). The last exercise was "True or False".

Paragraph 1: Find out the main sentence in first paragraph. And its function in the passages.

Paragraph 2 to paragraph 5: Read the these paragraphs to discuss what author's attitude is in the match? Underline the sentences in the article. (10 min)

Paragraph 6 to paragraph 7: How do you understand this sentence "They are brothers" in paragraph 6?

Paragraph 8: What have you learned in the last paragraph?

Step 4: Post-reading(8 min)

After reading the passage, the teacher asked the students to think back the sports games they had watched before and write a report like the passage

Step 5: Summary and homework(2 min)

The teacher asked one student to summarize the key points in class and polish the report written in class.

In this chapter, the author made an analysis of the experimental data. The data shows that many teachers need to spend much time researching students' English reading ability. According to the data analysis, the differences of learning effect in EC and CC are clearly shown. The author believes that students is bound to use English news in class. Students should have enough time reading English news to improve their reading ability. The researcher used Excel to analyze students' scores in each class.

Table 1. Comparison between EC and CC on Scores of Pretest (The total score: 60)

Class	Number	Mean	Excellence	Pass	Fail
EC	45	41.63	10	20	15
CC	45	42.72	11	21	13

Excellence: above 51

Pass: between 36 to 51

Fail: below 36

From the pretest data, the excellence, pass and fail rate is similar in both classes. And there is also no large difference in the average scores, which means students in the two classes have similar reading ability before the experiment.

Table 2. Comparison between EC and CC on Scores of Post-test (The total score: 60)

Class	Number	Mean	Excellence	Pass	Fail
EC	45	49.23	21	16	8
CC	45	44.75	17	13	15

Through the post-test data, in EC, the excellence and pass rate is higher than CC. In the experimental process, from the 3.6.2 table, teachers adapted the English news as reading materials in EC. The students' scores have been significantly improved since using English news. Moreover, English news has the feature of freshness, so it can not only help students get more vocabularies but also broaden their horizons by getting to know more world events. Compared with students only using textbook in English class, it can be concluded English news reading can improve students' reading ability. In a word, English news is the excellent materials in English reading teaching.

3. Conclusion

In this chapter, the author summarizes the whole text, and shows recently English news reading teaching has the major achievements in senior high school. And the author also shows the limitations of the study and points out how to cope with teaching issues in future researches.

Through a survey of English news reading teaching in Tsining No.1 Middle School, it is showed that the English news is beneficial to improve students' reading ability. Students are convinced that learning English reading is efficient. By talking about thought-provoking questions, the teachers can find invaluable information on the English reading teaching. Facing examination-oriented education, students must study hard and gain high enthusiasm in English reading. Particularly, English teachers wake up to the desirability of English news reading teaching. The teachers hope that the present teaching situation must be strengthened. But they also convinced that English news as authoritative material may promote senior high students' reading ability.

Through three months study, the English news was adapted to English reading in senior high school. It is more effective to improve students' understanding in reading aspect. English news is of significant influences in English reading. English news can arouse students' enthusiasm and expand their point of view. Hence, it is reasonable for teachers to use English news in English reading class. In English reading class, the relationship became harmony between the teacher and students in English reading teaching.

Although the author has done her greatest efforts in this study, It still has some problems here. First and foremost, this experiment lasted only three months. Time is limited. The author hopes researchers will use a large amount of data in the future research and practice English news in English reading teaching. Secondly, there are limited data about English news in this experiment. Thirdly, more statistics is needed in this experiment.

To avoid experimental limitations, we need to have a lot more time, and more data. And also more researchers are necessary to confirm this research. The author believes that the influence of using English news brings the reform of English reading teaching in senior high school.

In the further research we should pay more attention to the coherence between English news and traditional textbook. I hope that in the future teachers can have more time to study English reading teaching with English news, and in this way can we make students have more progress in English score. The author will continue spending much more time studying practical English news materials in order to ensure that students grasp English reading ability. English news is significant for senior high school students in English reading class. Our teachers should choose some reports about learning topic. Students accumulate cultural knowledge and related vocabulary of the English news report. So, teachers and students utilize the related content to understand reading passage.

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