IMPROVING THE WRITING SKILLS OF THE LEARNERS

by:
Annaliza S. Manalansan

Master Teacher I, Jose C. Payumo Jr. Memorial High School

Writing skill is one of the four language macro skills in English. Others are reading, speaking and listening. Writing is one particular skill worthy of cultivating since this skill is needed to attain success.

Within the communicative framework of language, the skill of writing enjoys especial status. It is through this skill that a person can communicate a variety of messages to a close or distant known or unknown reader or readers.

Such communication is extremely important in the modern world, whether the interaction takes place the form of traditional paper and pencil writing or the most technologically advance electronic mail. Writing as a communicative activity needs to be encouraged and nurtured during the language learners’ course of study.

Viewing writing as an act of communication, suggests an interactive process which takes place between the writer and the reader by way of the text. Such an approach places value on the goal of writing as well as on the perceived readers’ audience. If we are concerned with writing as well as on the perceived reader audience, if we are at the beginning level, these two aspects of the art of writing are of vital importance; in setting writing tasks, the teacher should encourage students to define for themselves the message they want to convey and the audience who will receive it. The writing process in comparison to spoken interaction, imposes greater demands on the text, since written interaction lacks immediate feedback as a guide.
One type of writing that a teacher must develop is summary writing. It is simply rewriting a piece of composition in a much shortened way. In other words, this activity will teach you how to be concised which is necessary for clear communication. In this kind of writing you will learn how to write short and simple sentences; since the simpler is clearer. Size may matter at times but not all the time.

Train yourself to have a first draft in any kind of writing until finally you produce a good summary writing.

References:

Murcia, C.M. Teaching English as a Second or Foreign Language 2007. USA.