THE POWER OF SPEAKING THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

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English is a universal language and the most widely-spoken language in the world. In line with this, most universities worldwide include English as one of the major subjects and as a medium of instructions.

English is the second language spoken here in the country; however, in this time, students most especially are having difficulty of speaking the language. Hettrakul as cited by Mahmoud & Nakhalal (2015), students use English more frequently only inside the classroom and less frequently outside the class. This made the students to have limited time in learning and they fail to receive enough encouragement to exercise their English language competence.

Enhancing the skills in speaking the English language plays a vital role. Consequently, there is a need for the students to study the language as a preparation in entering the global workforce. Research all over the world shows that cross-border communication is often conducted in English. Its importance in the global place therefore cannot be understated. Thus, the suggested ways below may help Filipino learners to achieve fluency in speaking the language outside the schools.

1. **Be a wide reader.** Vocabularies can be acquired from reading. Students have difficulty of speaking the language because of inability to translate Filipino words into English. Noting one English word a day and using it make the learner imbibe the word unnoticeably.
2. **Say “NO” to Filipino words to English words translation.** Prohibit yourself from word to word translation. This will only weaken the ability to think and to speak. Try to have “self-conversation” or speaking to oneself routine. Talking to yourself using the language make speaker capable of transferring thoughts using the English language.

3. **Use the power of technology.** Having grammar lesson is not the concentration of English classroom anymore. During this time, the focus is more on communication rather than proficiency. Use of technology like playing online quizzes in English subject can help in enhancing your vocabulary words, grammar rules and even writing skills.

4. **Fear not to commit mistake.** Do not be afraid of committing or speaking incorrect grammar, pronunciation and the like. Not every good speaker starts at their best, they also start as a novice speaker who commits mistake when they are speaking. Have your practice. Be confident. Do not fear if you stammer or speak with vocal fillers. Also, do not worry of being corrected; acceptance is for improvement.

5. **Make speaking English a “habit”.** There is no one who can beat the power of practice. As the common saying stated, we need to conduct continuous practice to achieve perfection. There is no harm if you talk in English in other subject areas or outside the school. So, Practice, Practice and Practice.

Achieving fluency in speaking the language is not a magic, it is a skill that needs to be learned and developed.
References: