



The Influence of Srikakulam dialect on English Pronunciation

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Abstract:

India is familiar with its linguistic diversity across the world. It was also known for dividing states on the basis of diverse languages. Andhra Pradesh has emerged as the first state being formed as a linguistic state in India. In Andhra Pradesh, Srikakulam district is known for its uniqueness in uttering vocabulary with a natural dialect as it accommodates numerous rural areas with village backgrounds and agency ambience which absolutely displays the strong prominence of vowel-stretch and other features on the pronunciation of English. However, English as a Global Language, is significant with its distinctive pronunciation with the proper accent and rhythm. So, this paper is going to explore how Srikakulam- dialect affects English Pronunciation of the students who belong to that region. It deteriorates the confidence level as well as curiosity towards communicative English. Apparently, our brain takes only the familiar gestures which we adopt from the atmosphere around us. The same principle is applied to acquire a mother tongue unintentionally. It is naked truth that the students are losing their Corporate opportunities including overseas careers with the effect of the local accent even though they have adequate subject knowledge and other technical skills. In this context, the teachers may provide much emphasis on practising English pronunciation. In view of this, it also aims to discuss the strategies to neutralise the prominence of Srikakulam-dialect on English Pronunciation.

Key words: *Distinctive pronunciation, overseas careers, familiar gestures, local accent, neutralise the prominence of Srikakulam-dialect*

Introduction:

It is a well known fact that any two persons don't pronounce a word in the same manner with the required stress and intonation though they dwell in the same region. We should accept when we are using a foreign language, it is evident to find the differences in the accent and rhythm of language. When we observe the condition of the Srikakulam dialect, it's been filled with countless peculiar vocabulary which cannot even be identified by other regions of Andhra Pradesh. So, we can guess the Srikakulam-slang plays much of an impact on English Pronunciation. To neutralise the prominence of Srikakulam slang on English pronunciation,

Issues enduring all the while with the impact of Srikakulam dialect on English Pronunciation:

The students who hail from Srikakulam district, are found with numerous pronunciation errors while they are presenting at any oral discourse in English. It has been showcased as a huge blunder on part of acquisition of presentation skills. Even if the student is mastered in subject matter, becomes embarrassed by the media he had used for it. This can be taken for granted in movies on bullying Srikakulam dialect. It is an undesirable practice to ridicule a dialect in the name of a region. So, it is inevitable to identify the phonemes that frequently occur in faulty pronunciation. It will be somewhat beneficial to prevent the pronunciation errors in English.

S.NO	The Phonemes pronouncing in English	The Phonemes pronouncing with the impact of Srikakulam dialect
1	/t/- /wɒnt/	/θ/- /wɒnθ/
2	/j/- /steɪn/	/s/-, /teɪsn/
3	/ɜː/- /pɜː(r)l/	/r/- /per^l/
4	/tj/- /pri:t/s/	/s/-/pri:s^s/
5	/w/- /swi:t/	/p/- /spi:t/

Strategies to be ensued for neutralising the impact of Srikakulam-dialect on English Pronunciation:

Practice of minimal pairs:

In uttering the words that existed in the dialect of Srikakulam, we can perceive the inevitable long stretch of articulation which obviously emerges as an impediment of learning a foreign accent. So, the teachers of English must emphasise on the practice of minimal pairs and at every stage of education. In English phonetics minimal pairs are pairs of words or phrases in a particular language, spoken or written that vary in only one phonetic element.

S.NO	word-initial	mid-vowel	final-consonant
1	bed-red	pin-pan	bat-bag
2	back- lack	meal-mill	boat-boar
3	rice-mice	rod-road	mud-mug
4	sound-round	let-lot	meat-meal
5	road-load	sweet-sweat	plan-place

Establishment of English language lab:

English language lab (E.L.L) which functions in aid of a specific software, should be allocated at every educational institution in order to enable the training in listening skill of the students. It is featured with an in-built voice of recording to practice the exercises.

JAM(Just A Minute) sessions:

Teachers must encourage the students to participate in JAM sessions for practising pronunciation. Predominantly, JAM sessions are supposed to be conducted to improve the fluency of students at the higher education level. During the JAM, the topic is declared in no time to be delivered in only one minute. So, it demands the spontaneous response of the student. As well, It can assess the pronunciation skills of the students unconsciously.

Read Aloud:

In those days, the teachers would encourage the students to read aloud. Primarily, at Veda patasala all the chantings and verses could be read aloud. After that, the Guru used to identify the errors in the pronunciation and rectify them instantly. Here, this activity must be encouraged right from the primary level which allows us to anticipate good results when they reach higher education.

Evaluation techniques:

Primarily, the evaluation techniques are framed on the basis of promoting writing skills. When it extends to evaluate the speaking and reading; it will be beneficial for the students to learn good pronunciation with the proper accent and rhythm.

TEDx:

TEDx is a wonderful platform which provides the opportunity to students to know about the personality of eminent people besides the pronunciation with the appropriate stress and rhythm. Now-a-days, all the students are using mobile phones which enables them to explore the dictionaries on the finger-tips to know the meaning of difficult words as well the pronunciation.

Conclusion:

In conclusion, this paper discussed the major findings which deal with the issues of Proper English pronunciation while it is being affected by the Srikakulam dialect.

1. Diphthongs are pronounced as long pure vowels which are not found in IPA
2. Unidentified distinction between some consonant sounds.
3. Ignored at Primary level of schooling emerges an obstruction of higher education.
4. Less emphasis is provided on Listening and Speaking skills rather than Reading and Writing.
5. Teachers of English must be given with requisite orientation in English phonetics.
6. Communicative language teaching (CLT) is an appropriate approach for instructing the students' pronunciation, as it absolutely focuses on enhancing students' listening ability.
7. Evaluation components can be extended to recording the voices of students from the Primary level of schooling itself in order to find the errors and to take remedial measures.
8. To encourage an organic acquisition of pronunciation, teachers would better choose formative assessment as part of Continuous Comprehensive Evaluation.

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