

MA English Semester II

Paper VII -English Language Teaching

Unit IV
English For Specific Purposes:
A general understanding

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Key Points

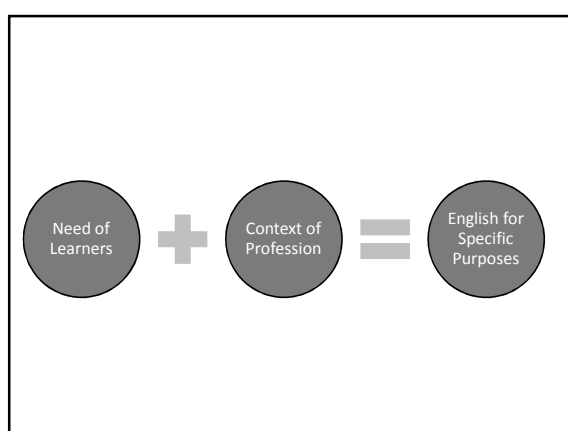
- Why only English?
- Definition
- Major Theorists in ESP
- Characteristics of ESP Courses
- Types of ESP
- Course Design in ESP
- Role of a Teacher in ESP
- How to Design an ESP Course
- Conclusion

WHY only ENGLISH ?

- English language is one of the most accepted language across the globe, and is used by professionals in almost every field.
- Around 350 million people, across the globe, use English as their first language whereas another 430 million speak it as a second language.
- English speakers can easily be found in every country across the globe.
- English is one of the most widely used language in every profession.
- Every profession has a specific purpose and context thus we need English for specific profession.

Definition

“English for Specific Purposes (ESP) is an approach to language teaching that targets the current and/or future academic or occupational needs of learners, focuses on the necessary language, genres, and skills to address these needs, and assists learners in meeting these needs through the use of general and/or discipline-specific teaching materials and methods”. (Anthony)



Characteristics of ESP

- According to Dudley-Evans, characteristics of ESP can be divided into two categories
 - Absolute characteristics
 - Variable characteristics
- This division in two categories, is helpful in resolving arguments about ESP

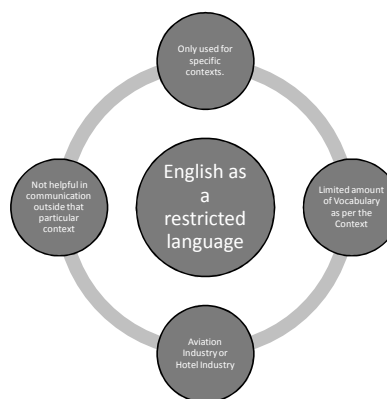
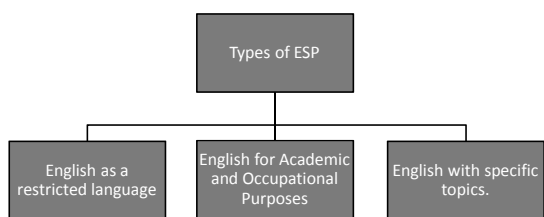
Absolute Characteristics

- ESP is designed to meet specific needs of the learners of different profession
- ESP exploits underlying methodology and the activities of the discipline for which it is being used
- ESP is structured on the language appropriate for profession in terms of grammar, lexis, register, study skills, discourse and genre

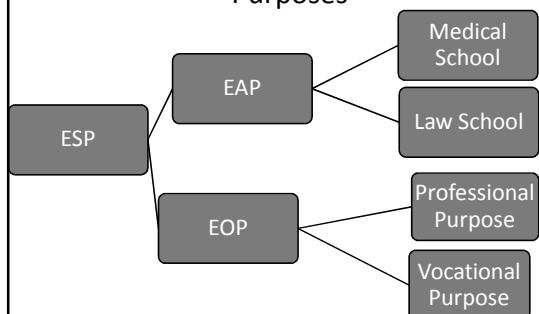
Variable Characteristics

- ESP can be related and is designed for specific disciplines
- ESP, at times, uses specific teaching situations, and specific methodology from that of General English Teaching
- ESP is designed for adult learners, either for basic use or in a professional environment.
- It is believed that a person undertaking ESP courses has basic knowledge of the language systems

David Carter



English for Academic and Occupational Purposes



ENGLISH WITH SPECIFIC TOPICS

- It is related and anticipates future English needs.
- Future scenarios like, In countries where English is a foreign language, scientists need English course for post graduate studies for attending International conferences and seminars.

CHARACTERISTICS OF ESP COURSES

- David Carter states that there are three features common to ESP courses:
 - a) **Authentic material** -material should be authentic.
 - b) **Purpose**-related orientation - orientation lessons must be according to needs and wants of students.
 - c) **Self-direction** - freedom should be given to learners, to decide what to learn and how to learn.

ESP COURSE DESIGN

- Course design is the blueprint which determines the success of an ESP classroom
- Course design refers to the planning and structuring of a course to reach the desired goals
- The ESP courses aims to prepare the learners, and acquaints with specific skills and vocabulary that can be exploited for effective communication

How ESP Achieve its Aims

In ESP there are multiple variables which have to be taken into consideration for designing a course

- The Identification of Needs.
- Syllabus Design.
- Materials Production.
- Evaluation and Assessment.

Role of a ESP Teacher

- Role of an ESP teacher is of prime importance, the teacher is the one who brings the theoretical framework to the practical scenario of classroom.
- Sets goals and objectives
- Organizes courses
- Prepares materials
- Evaluates students

Role of a ESP Teacher

- An ESP can take help of the book but should not be rigid .
- Innovate as per the classroom is a good practice.
- Material should be organized in accordance with grammar, functional and situational point of view.
- The material should be tailored as per the students' needs and the goals

CONCLUSION

- English for Specific Purposes has emerged as a significant field of Applied Linguistics.
- ESP focuses on the needs of a language learner for specific academic setting or occupation.
- Courses are tailor made for different professions, one needs a different course design and a different teaching strategy for different fields like Aviation English, Medical English , Legal English and others

I have already shared authentic study material
for different areas of ESP .
Thank You