

The Improvement Path of Information Literacy of College English Teachers under the Threshold of Educational Ecology

Yadan Gao

Henan Vocational University of Science and Technology, Zhoukou, Henan, China

Abstract: With the rapid development of information technology and the deepening of the concept of educational ecology, the cultivation of college English teachers' information literacy has become an important link to promote the healthy development of the higher education ecosystem in China. Starting from the perspective of educational ecology, we analyze the information quality of college English teachers, point out the necessity of improving teachers' information literacy, and propose to strengthen the teachers' understanding of the concept of educational ecology, developing personalized information literacy. College English teachers actively participate in relevant training and practical activities, and colleges establish a scientific reward and punishment mechanism, and build a good educational ecological environment and other countermeasures, to help college English teachers comprehensively improve their information skills, information awareness and information ethics, and then the measure promote the sustainable and healthy development of the whole higher education ecosystem.

Keywords: Education Ecology; College English Teachers; Information Literacy; Improvement Path

1. Introduction

With the advent of the information age, Teachers' information quality has increasingly become an important index to measure teachers' comprehensive quality. In the educational ecosystem, teachers' information literacy is related to personal professional growth. Teachers' information literacy is also related to the stability and development of the educational ecosystem. Especially for college English teachers, as a bridge for cross-cultural exchange and information transmission, the level of their information literacy directly affects the

cultivation of students' English application ability and international vision. Therefore, this paper starts from the perspective of educational ecology, and further researches on how to improve the information literacy of college English teachers. In order to promote the optimization and development of the educational ecosystem, this paper provides a theoretical basis for developing high and excellent talents with high information literacy and cross-cultural communication ability.

2. Theoretical Basis of Educational Ecology

Educational ecology, as an emerging interdisciplinary discipline, gives people a new perspective on the education system, and it skillfully borrows from the basic principles and methods of ecology, considering the education system as an open, complex, and dynamic system. In this system, teachers, students, schools, and the broader social, cultural, economic and other environmental factors, interweave with each other. Together, we maintain a delicate and complex ecological balance: First, educational ecology emphasizes the openness of the educational system, and it shows that the education system is not closed. It is closely related and interacting with the external environment, and it will constantly draw nutrients from the external environment. For example, the socioeconomic changes, advances in science and technology, cultural changes and so on. It also exports the results to the external environment, for example, in cultivating talents, innovative knowledge and so on. This enables the education system to maintain vitality and competitive advantages in a changing external environment; next, the education system is composed of teachers, students, curriculum, teaching methods and other subsystems, and there are complex and subtle connections and interactions between each element and each subsystem[1]. These three aspects are interdependent and interacting

to form a complex education system, which is evolving and changing with the time and society, not only in the education system, but also in the relationship between the education system and the external environment.

Under the education ecology threshold, teachers are the core of education ecosystem, and the improvement of the information literacy level is not only related to their own professional growth, but also related to the stability and development of the whole education ecological system, therefore, how to improve teachers' information literacy can better adapt to the needs of the development of education ecosystem, is a worthy subject of further research.

3. Analysis of the Information Literacy of College English Teachers

In today's rapidly changing educational environment, the information literacy status of college English teachers plays an important role in the education system, however, after a thorough observation and analysis, at present, the information literacy of college English teachers is generally shallow, There is still a tremendous gap with the requirements of educational modernization: first, at the level of information awareness, many college English teachers have not strong awareness of active acquisition and use of information, and they often indulge in the traditional teaching model, contenting with the existing teaching resources, teaching methods, and doubting or ignoring the innovation and advancement of information technology, someone lacks of forward-looking, innovative information awareness, which make them feel powerless in the face of the educational changes in the digital and information age. It is difficult to meet the needs of the development of the times, and it is also hard to adapt to the students' growing needs for information and knowledge; next, in terms of the information skill level, many college English teachers have obvious deficiencies in the use of information technology, due to the lack of the necessary training associating with the practical experience, they are unable to skillfully use various teaching software and online platforms, especially in the integration of network resources and improving the teaching effect, the lack of teachers' skills not only affects the teaching quality and efficiency of teachers themselves, at the same time, it also restricts students' ways and ability to acquire knowledge

and information; Besides, due to the lack of relevant education and guidance of some college English teachers, their weak awareness of information security and intellectual property rights, in the course of daily teaching and scientific research, teachers may casually disclose the students' personal information, and they may also use other people's teaching resources or results without authorization, which is not only a violation of teachers' professional ethics, but also a kind of damage to the healthy development of the education ecosystem[2].

4. The Necessities of Improving the Information Literacy of College English Teachers under the Threshold of Educational Ecology

4.1 Adapting to the Needs of Modern Educational Reform

Under the background of informatization and globalization, modern education is experiencing unprecedented changes, and information technology has penetrated into all areas of education, from the teaching content to teaching methods. In order to adapt to the change, college English teachers must improve their information literacy, skillfully master and use information technology, adapt to the requirement of modern education for high efficiency, interactivity and innovation. At the same time, teachers also can effectively integrate the resources of teaching, rich teaching means, and improve the teaching effect, to meet the needs of modern education reform[3].

4.2 Strengthening the Connection and Interaction of the Educational Ecosystem

Education ecology visual threshold, education system is a kind of open, complex and dynamic system. In this system, teachers, students, intertwine with schools, and a broader social, cultural, economic and other factors, and they constitute a complex and delicate ecological balance, the improvement of teachers' information literacy, which can promote the connection, interaction, and information communication and sharing. At the same time, teachers can more easily obtain and transfer information, enhance the contact with the external environment and interaction, and promote the harmonious development of the education ecosystem[4].

4.3 Promoting Teachers' Professional Development and Innovation

Teachers' professional development is a process of continuous learning, and they constantly update knowledge. In the information age, teachers' professional growth should not only have a solid subject knowledge, teaching skills, but also have higher information literacy. Improving teachers' information literacy, can help them better grasp the latest information technology development and application, finally, they can grasp the new teaching methods and means better, and realize the teaching reform.

4.4 Promoting Equitable and Balanced Development of Education

The development of information technology provides new opportunities for fair education. The improvement of teachers' information literacy help to narrow the gap between regions and education level between schools, and promote the balanced development of education. Teachers can use information technology to obtain and share quality education resources, and improve the teaching level and quality. At the same time, information technology also can break through the regional restrictions, such as remote education and online learning, which provide more quality education resources and services for the majority of students. It is not only beneficial to improve the quality of education, but also to cultivate more innovative spirit, and to practice ability of high-quality talents[5].

4.5 Meeting Students' Learning Needs and Expectations

With the popularization and application of information technology, students more urgent need variety of learning resources and learning experience to improve their learning effect. Improving the level of teachers' information literacy, is an effective way to meet the demand of college students, and teachers can use information technology, provide multiple learning resources and personalized learning experience, to stimulate students' interest in learning. At the same time, teacher also can use information technology to understand the students' learning status and needs, and duly adjust teaching strategy and way, to meet the students' learning expectations.

5. The Ways to Improve the Information

Literacy of college English Teachers under Educational Ecology

5.1 Deep Understanding of the Principles of Educational Ecology

From the perspective of educational ecology, college English teachers must have a deep understanding of the close interaction between education and its external environment. This emphasizes that there is a dynamic balance and interaction relationship between the educational system and the social, cultural and economic environment, college English teachers, as the core members of the educational ecosystem, must be fully aware of the important role of information literacy in this balance. It is not only related to the improvement of teachers' own quality, but also a bridge between educational resources, teaching technology and students. Improving information quality is beneficial for teachers to obtain, evaluate and apply information more effectively, thus they should promote the optimization of the teaching process and the improvement of the teaching quality. At the same time, teachers also need to understand the external factors such as social change, cultural diversity and economic fluctuations also affect the educational ecosystem. Teachers can flexibly adjust their teaching strategies accordingly, to ensure continuous progress in education[6].

5.2 Developing Systematic and Specific Improvement Plans

In order to effectively improve the information literacy of college English teachers under the threshold of educational ecology, we need to develop a systematic and concrete plan: as technological advances, teachers must be familiar with the application of multimedia, network platforms and digital teaching tools, to improve the teaching efficiency and effect. At the same time, teachers learn to use data analysis tools, to analyze the students' learning behavior and learning effect[7]. And they can adjust the teaching strategies accordingly, to better meet the personalized needs of students; At the level of information awareness, teachers should strengthen the cultivation of information sensitivity and critical thinking ability. In an information-based society, teachers must be able to quickly capture useful teaching information. This requires teachers to have a strong information awareness, to have the ability to

distinguish the authenticity and accuracy of information; Besides, teachers should pay attention to observe the code of ethics, and protect students' privacy and information security. In the process of using information technology, teachers should ensure the security of students' personal information, Do not disclose students' personal information, and spread false information. At the same time, they should strengthen the information and moral education of college students, and cultivate their information literacy and a sense of responsibility.

5.3 Actively Participating in Training and Practical Activities

At the visual threshold of educational ecology, to improve the information literacy of college English teachers, there should be both theoretical guidance and practical exercise. Teachers should be actively involved in the training and practical activities, and improve their information literacy: First, schools and educational institutions shall regularly organize information based training courses, and the course shall invite experts and scholars in the field of information technology at home and abroad, to share the latest information technology and teaching ideas. Through the study of this course, teachers are able to systematically learn the basic theories of information technology, understand the application of information technology in the education field, thus also mastering the new teaching tools and methods; Next, teachers should actively use the network platform to carry out independent learning activities. The Internet provides teachers with abundant learning resources, so they can communicate and discuss with their peers through events such as online courses, seminars and forums, and this method of autonomous learning is both convenient and fast. It can also let teachers according to their own learning progress and interests for personalized learning; Besides, teachers should accumulate experience in practice, apply the knowledge and skills learned to practical teaching, and participate in teaching practices and programs, for example, conducting online teaching, making instructional videos, making information technology better integrated into teaching, helping to improve the teaching efficiency. On this basis, teachers can also constantly reflect and summarize in the teaching

practice, thus forming their own teaching style.

5.4 The Establishment of a Scientific Incentive Mechanism

To effectively improve the information literacy of college English teachers, we must establish a set of scientific incentive mechanism, and the purpose is to use a clear reward and punishment mechanism, to stimulate teachers' enthusiasm to keep learning and improve their information literacy: First, schools or educational institutions should set up special awards, including honorary titles, bonuses or certificates, commending teachers who have done achievements in improving information literacy, to affirm the work and achievements of teachers and they play a exemplary role, and to encourage other teachers to actively participate in the improvement of information literacy; Next, when evaluating the professional titles and performance of teachers, their information literacy should be fully considered, to improve the teachers who have achieved remarkable results. In the professional title evaluation, performance evaluation and other aspects should give appropriate tilt, such as increasing the score weight, priority for recommendation, etc. This tilt is not only the affirmation of teachers' efforts, but also a strong support for their future development. It helps stimulate the enthusiasm of teachers to improve their information literacy.

5.5 Building a Good Educational Ecological Environment

At the visual threshold of educational ecology, building a good educational ecological environment is of great significance to improving teachers' information literacy. A good educational ecological environment not only can provide the necessary support and resources for teachers, but also can promote the communication and cooperation between teachers. To jointly promote the healthy development of the educational ecosystem: schools should first strengthen and update the educational information technology infrastructure, and provide teachers with advanced teaching equipment and software. To meet the needs of information-based teaching, on this basis, schools should also provide teachers with the necessary information technology support and resource guarantee, for example, providing professional and technical training, to provide adequate teaching resources,

to ensure that teachers can make better use of information technology in teaching for teaching reform; Next, Schools should encourage teachers to participate in collective lesson preparation and teaching research activities, which give them the opportunities to exchange experiences, sharing of the results. The cooperation and communication between teachers can create an atmosphere of mutual help and common improvement. At the same time, it can also promote the sharing and optimization of educational resources, improve the efficiency of the use of educational resources; Last, teachers should pay attention to students' learning needs and feedback, and timely adjust the teaching strategies and methods, to adapt to the constantly-changing educational ecology. By paying attention to the students' learning status, teachers can better understand the students' needs and existing problems in learning. Thus, it can provide more accurate guidance for teaching, on this basis, teachers should also encourage students to actively participate in teaching activities and discussions, to stimulate their interest in learning and their creative spirit, and cultivate students' independent learning ability and innovative thinking.

6. Conclusion

With the rapid development of information technology, under the background of education reform deepening, college English teachers' information literacy has become the key to the healthy development of the education ecosystem. This paper is based upon the perspective of education ecology, and emphasizes the necessity of improving teachers' information literacy. We put forward some effective paths, and expect that these research results can stimulate teachers' learning enthusiasm, and jointly promote the vigorous development of education ecosystem.

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