

SIGNIFICANCE OF ENGLISH IN SOCIAL WORK COMMUNICATION

Abstract

Social work profession is one of the most significant professions, which has great importance in the current era. In social work profession social workers need to have basic knowledge of English language to expand their profession at national and international level. Modern social workers apply various methods in their social work activities to make them more effective. Great competition is observed in social work field especially in urban area. Employment in social work profession has also become a raising issue in India. Opportunity in government and non-government field has become just dream for the generation working in the field of social work. In this competitive era expectations from the current social workers have increased. Hence, social workers need to be perfect, active expert, knowledgeable and bold in social work profession. English is a linking language all over the world. Social worker can present themselves well through effective communication while working at national and international level.

Keywords: significance, English, social work, effective communication

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I. INTRODUCTION

In the 21st century social work has occupied an important place among all other professions. The main purpose of social work profession is to enhance all kind of human wellbeing and help all needy people with special attention. Social workers always work for the empowerment of oppressed, needy and poor people. Social workers usually promote for social change and social justice. Their work is always for individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities. Social workers fight for eradicating discrimination, oppression, poverty, and other forms of social injustice in the society. Hence the role of social workers has acquired significant place in the current scenario. Their role can be performed effectively only with the help of effective communication and for effective communication they should be familiar with English language. Social workers should be able to understand, communicate, discuss matters and speak English for working easily in their field. Command on English may be one of the best qualities of social workers.

1. Significance of English: Before and after independence English has occupied a significant place in education system in India. It has become an easy means of communication in the international sphere. English is the only language through which everybody can reach to universal culture which embraces many branches of knowledge. According to Pandit Neharu, “English is our Major Window on the modern world”.

Nowadays English has become language of national and international importance. It has become one of the major languages of the world so the people neglecting English may face hindrances in their life. It is the only language that can be understood in all the countries of the world. Learning English is not mandatory for all but the study of English language is essential for acquiring knowledge of various branches. English is very useful for education, commerce, foreign trade, and foreign relationship. It is the world language and mainly spoken in all other countries. English has become the language of official correspondence. Students seeking opportunities in administrative jobs must have knowledge of English. English is also language of court. All criminal and civil records are also kept in English. It is a medium of correspondence for trade and industry. In all the fields English has acquired the place of unique importance. Hence it has become need of today to be familiar with English.

English is rich in knowledge of modern sciences and technologies. It is the language of western sciences and good knowledge of science and good knowledge of science and technology is acquired with the help of English. Most of the thinkers and philosophers had command over English hence they could progress at international level. The main purpose of the language is to convey the ideas to others, but lack of English language may become the big hindrance while conveying the ideas in any field. English is a living language and it enriches and grows as time passes. The language has the capacity to accept words from all other languages. Among all other languages English has become very flexible vehicle of thought.

English is a foreign language and not deeply rooted in native soil hence it is considered as the second compulsory language in Indian education system. It is considered to be an instrument for the acquisition of knowledge. The chief objective of making this language second compulsory language is to make everyone capable with

good working knowledge of English. This language has brought great changes in various approaches.

2. **English for social touch:** Language is the medium of expressing our ideas, thoughts and emotions at any place. While working and living with society people need to communicate with each other time to time. Many times people cannot communicate with strange people in strange area due to language problem. But English is the only language that can keep in touch people of one society with other strange society through communicating with them in English. In the same manner people of one country can maintain their relation with each other through communicating in English. Thus, English has become the powerful tool of social touch. Through this language person of one religion can understand the feeling of other religion person. They can communicate and solve each other's problems through communicating with each other.
3. **English for social work communication:** English has become indispensable part of social work profession. Social workers may be employed in different settings and atmosphere. Social workers who are doing case studies directly deal with the individual or the family. Social workers work in industrial area, family service agencies, community development, medical field, public agencies and in private settings. In all these settings they may progress faster only if they know English well. Effective communication is one of the powerful weapons in the hands of social workers. Sometimes effective communication becomes even more important in social work profession. Hence, Social workers should be the masters of effective communication.

Social work field requires a continued study for professional development to retain knowledge and skills. English language helps to retain knowledge and skills in social work profession. Social work profession leads toward the aim of providing beneficial services to individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities through communicating with them.

4. **English for bright future of social worker:** Opportunities for social workers are increasing day by day in all the fields including government and non-government fields. Social workers do not get opportunities or jobs in their native places only. They move for the strange area or field to grab the best job opportunities for their bright future. But social workers can work with strange people in strange area only when they are capable for communicating with strange people through English language. Because it is the only linking language that can be applied anywhere in the globe. Sometimes social workers have to attend online or physically some important conferences and workshops held at other countries for developing their profession. English is used as the medium for such conferences and workshop. So social workers acquainted with English language can successfully attend and achieve the purpose of the conference. Many times social workers are suggested to prepare the report of their particular work in particular format of English. Social workers having at least basic knowledge of English can easily fulfill the requirement of report writing. Hence, lack of basic knowledge of English may be the big hindrance in the bright future of the social workers.

Social workers should have good communication skill with good knowledge of English for working effectively in the society. Fluent social worker in English can grab

many opportunities only through his fluency in English. The maximum available literature of social work is in English. Hence, the social workers having knowledge of English can take the benefit of available literature for bright future in social work profession.

II. CONCLUSION

Social work profession has a concern with individuals, families, groups, communities, and society. It is an effort to meet basic needs and enhance social functioning, self-determination, collective responsibility, and overall well-being of society. Social workers can work at anywhere through the help of good communication skill. In this profession English language performs an important role in developing interventions to solve social problems, personal problems, and bring about social change. Social work practice often involves working directly with individuals or small groups and communities, and fostering change on a larger scale through social policy. Social workers should be able to communicate well in English while working with such groups and communities at national and international level for the better result in their field.

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