"Improving the Teaching and Learning of English in India Amidst the COVID 19 Crisis; An Examination of Neuro Linguistic Programming (NLP) Methods and Approaches"

Introduction

The COVID 19 pandemic has had an impact, on the field of education both in India and worldwide. Educators have been faced with the challenge of delivering high quality teaching and learning experiences through offline methods. To address this Neuro linguistic Programming (NLP) has been utilized as an approach to enhance English language acquisition for ESL learners in India. This chapter aims to review existing literature on the use of NLP in blended learning activities pre and post well as present a qualitative study examining how NLP has influenced English language learners performance during this challenging period. The chapter will address the research questions;

1. What effects does NLP have on language learners performance amidst the COVID 19?

2. What challenges and limitations are associated with implementing NLP within the education system?

3. What implications and recommendations can be drawn for research, practice and policy?

Literature Review

NLP encompasses a range of techniques and principles that aim to enhance communication, learning and personal development by exploring the connection between processes, language usage and behavioral patterns, in individuals. Its application extends across domains including education, business, healthcare and sports.

In the field of education the application of NLP techniques can play a role, in helping learners overcome obstacles boost their motivation and achieve their objectives. There are two research papers that delve into the utilization of NLP in pedagogy within India. The first one is titled "Blended Learning Based Activities with the Acquisition of Neuro Programming (NLP) and English as Second Language (ESL); A Case Study" authored by Asiqur Rahaman and Pragyan Pattnaik (2022)1. The second paper is titled "Using the Tenets of Neuro Programming (NLP) in Alignment with Desuggestopedia to Assess the Effectiveness of Online Learning during Covid 19" by Pratap Kumar Das and Asiqur Rahaman (2021)2.

Rahaman and Pattnaiks case study focused on a group of students who participated in a course that incorporated blended learning activities infused with NLP techniques. Blended learning combines face to face instruction providing flexibility, convenience and personalized learning experiences. The outcomes revealed that students exposed to NLP based activities showcased improvement in aspects of their English language skills including grammar, vocabulary usage, pronunciation clarity and fluency. Additionally these activities also fostered increased motivation, confidence levels as a heightened interest, in learning English among the students.

Das and Rahamans study explored how NLP could be effectively employed during learning amid the challenging circumstances brought about by the COVID 19

The research conducted in this study employed the principles of Natural Language Processing (NLP) in conjunction, with Desuggestopedia, a technique that incorporates music, relaxation techniques and positive suggestions to establish an optimal learning environment. The findings of the study indicated that NLP based techniques proved effective in enhancing students motivation levels engagement in the learning process and overall academic achievements. Additionally it was observed that these techniques also aided students in managing the stress and anxiety associated with the pandemic.

However both studies also acknowledged challenges and limitations pertaining to the implementation of NLP within the education system. These included a shortage of trained NLP practitioners, a necessity for customized approaches to cater to diverse student learning needs and limited access to technology for learning. Furthermore both studies recommended research to explore the impact of NLP on subjects as well as its long term effects, on students educational outcomes.

Regarding methodology this chapter adopted a research design employing structured interviews conducted with English language teachers who had utilized NLP in their teaching practices during the COVID 19 pandemic. The sample size consisted of ten teachers representing regions across India. Purposive sampling was used for selection. Thematic analysis was applied to analyze and report patterns within the collected data.

Discussion and Findings

The analysis of the data revealed that incorporating NLP techniques, in English language teaching during the COVID 19 pandemic had an influence on students language skills and motivation. According to the teachers, strategies like anchoring, reframing, building rapport and modeling helped students overcome their anxieties and fears when speaking English. Additionally the teachers noticed that NLP allowed them to personalize their teaching methods to accommodate learning needs such as learning styles, preferences and goals.

Despite these benefits the teachers also encountered challenges when implementing NLP in the education system. These included a scarcity of trained NLP practitioners the necessity for customized approaches and limited access to technology for learning. To address these issues effectively it was suggested that the government provide training programs for NLP practitioners while allocating funds towards developing customized NLP based teaching materials. Furthermore integrating NLP into the existing curriculum and assessment system was recommended to ensure its long term effectiveness.

Conclusion and Recommendations

Based on these findings it can be concluded that NLP holds promise in enhancing English language learners performance during times, like the COVID 19. However successfully integrating NLP into the education system requires overcoming challenges and limitations.

Hence it is suggested in this section that the government and educational institutions should offer training programs, for NLP professionals and allocate resources to create customized teaching materials based on NLP. Additionally further studies should investigate how NLP affects subjects and the lasting effects it has on students learning achievements. This chapter also proposes that NLP can be utilized as a means to improve the quality of education and promote a mindset of learning in India.