The management model construction of the college English autonomous learning process

Hu Po

Foreign Language Department, Jilin University of Finance and Economics, Changchun 130000, China

Abstract. The prerequisite of learning English well during college life is the independent learning of English. But currently a majority of students do not have the guts and courage to learn something earnestly. What’s more, what the author maintains is that the procedure management of autonomous study should be strengthened regardless of creating a healthy independent self-study environment, setting self-study realization and mastering those relevant skills. The procedure management is set up in order to guarantee the effects and quality of study and achieve fantastic purposes, thus resulting in successfully examining, evaluating, adjusting study activities. The article raises the self-study model based on information control, whole-process management and the multi-dynamic management model in an attempt to provide applicable plans of the independent study system.

1 Introduction

Autonomous learning can also be called self-directed learning, which means the students should be able to master a wide array of skills that may be related to learning independently, mastering the aims of self-regulated learning, choosing and evaluating a series of study procedures and consequences. Five aspects are thought to be connected with the capabilities of autonomous learning by Holec: 1. confirming learning objectives 2. determining the context and process of study 3. altering proper study methods and techniques 4. monitoring the study process like pace, time and places 5. evaluating study effects. As chart 1 below shows.

The autonomous study of students is the theory of psychology, humanity used in application. Therefore, a bevy of educators advocate independent study. However, a large number of surveys on independent English learning reveal the fact that most of Chinese students do not have the initiative or specific goals to learn it well, nor the experience of supervision or evaluation. It is discovered that the utilizing rate of internet platform is not that high through the writer’s own teaching experience. Take “New Vision English Learning Platform” as an example, problems such as inadequacy of web page, lateness of handing in homework, coldness of discussion area, the unused English evaluation part appeared one after another.

Figure 1. The model of autonomous learning procedures.

© The Authors, published by EDP Sciences. This is an open access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License 4.0 (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).
Due to this, apart from offering a good environment for students’ self-regulated study, establishing the initiative of learning wholeheartedly and helping those who need relevant skills, the process management should also be strengthened in order to solidly guarantee the effects of self-study.

Process management is the management that is involved with planning, executing, examining and summarizing all sections based on information communication to realize the goal of letting learners master knowledge, improving the comprehensive ability of using the knowledge and cultivating lifelong study spirit for learners worshiped by learners themselves, professors and assistant professors. Besides, process management is also the multi-management combined with both self-management and management of third parties. A highly effective entirety could be formed with intricate and careful arrangements and adjustments between managers and all the management processes.

2 The construction of management model

A. The process management model of self-directed study based on information control

The theories and opinions of cybernetics could be the scientific method that researches all kinds of scientific problems. This, actually, means that all the quality characteristics should be thrown away and regard them as a control system and then analyze its information process, the reaction and control system, whose method may make the system reach the best state. The so-called control can be defined as the efforts made to eradicate all the controllable factors that stand on the way to success.

The theory of information control is applicable to English teaching, which is dedicated to studying the controlling problems setting up the teaching process as a whole. The foreign language teaching system is a large system that is comprised of teachers, external conditions, English lessons and students. Additionally, the teaching process is a process in which relevant information can be transmitted and understood by students through teachers’ teaching management and equipment. On top of that, process management mainly embodies planning, execution, examination and conclusion etc. Specifically speaking, the planning section includes setting proper goals, making plans, choosing decisions, applying plans, monitoring, coordinating and control, etc. Conclusion also helps to make overall evaluation in terms of the whole process using the planning objective as yardstick, providing clues for making new plans.

B. The multi-dynamic management model during the self-regulated study process

The college autonomous English study refers to self-discipline and management of others.

What the management of others means the restraints coming from external conditions such as families, teachers or parents’ requirements, tasks, encouragement, criticism, focus, etc. From another vision, it also encompasses the management of teachers, teaching supervision, teaching department and services relating to internet technique technology. However, self-discipline is a process in which students make plans and analyze proper outcomes and make appropriate adjustments. Both external and internal control, which take up different proportions and are interconnected, exist during the study process. Generally speaking, students with high self-discipline do not need any external restrictions, which often functions as a supporting part. Students’ ability to control themselves is regarded as the core part of study that determines the quality of learning effects.

Furthermore, the management process is constantly changing due to the fact that a number of factors relating to this such as managers, learners and information keep developing all the time. As a consequence, the core of management process is to make appropriate adjustments depending on the changes, development and interconnections of managing objects to realize the holistic aims. The goal of dynamic management of self-study process is to reach the expected learning objectives by effectively using study resources, modifying learning strategies and properly giving back information.

The overall management of self-study based on internet platform means teachers start to monitor students’ overall performance since the students’ enrollment. Simultaneously, teachers also guide students so as to guarantee their smooth development which includes students’ personal files, study paths, study strategies, learning context and evaluation of all kinds. As chart 2 below shows

3 He characteristics of new horizon college english network platform

First of all, the atmosphere of English learning based on "foreign language learning environment" was added via the network platform, thus, it also strengthened the direct teaching approach, promoted the students’ personalized development, and expanded the students’ thinking space. What’s more, the network has more learning resources, covering the the audio video, video, online newspapers, magazines and BBS, furthermore, these resources also have been analyzed and linked together. The students could be guided into the extensive reading area.

The third point, the network also supplies a brand new communication atmosphere of English language, which can stimulate and inspire students’ English learning positive target. Network platform, binding to convenient communication between two teachers in English teaching process, constructs the typical space between teachers and students, students and students, students and outside world. Made full use of the network, the teachers could assist college English teaching resources, help building situation and simulating the cultivate learning interest in English.
The network which is helpful for improving students' English autonomous learning ability. Our college students' autonomous English learning ability is generally low, many students didn't determine the learning objectives, monitor or evaluate the learning effect. However, the network platform was allowed much more time for the students to assign learning process. It is most important for this platform to record and test students' autonomous learning situation and state quo. With the firsthand data, the learning could be adjusted effectively on time and respond the students' problems immediately.

With the far-reaching and profound influence, the College English knowledge was updated quickly, compared with the out-date teaching approach. The network platform constructed an area for students to read these day's paper, for illustration, Anglo-American electronics newspaper, and Version of magazines, the New York times, the Trenton post, USA today, etc., these reference not only enrich students' knowledge, but also let the teachers get rid of the model that was used in the old days----the teaching center and teachers center pattern, which gave priority to the teaching material, changing the old patterns of teaching. Meantime, the students are making full use of network to learn and absorb the information resources to improve their English ability.

4 The status quoo of the management mode of college English autonomous learning process

University network platform of the management mode of the college English autonomous learning process mainly imitated and adopted the following: the whole process management, information control, multivariate dynamic management, in-class monitoring, after class monitoring. Via the above approaches, this platform have treated the students as the center to carry out the monitoring since 2009. Before taking the multimedia network teaching pattern and traditional teaching mode, the common teaching mode is to be teaching mainly by tutors, on the contrary, the students were accepted negatively. The whole priority was given to the teachers. The independent learning ability is not fully developed, and the language using ability is difficult to get training. Now campus has a free and open 10 more or less auto-video classrooms, with 640 seats for the grade 2011 and 2012 college students, when they are on their spare time. Regarding to the regulation, online learning should be more than 16 hours, meanwhile the superior in the class was assigned by some department concerned who has responsibility for attendance, coaching and answering questions.

Having been practicing the internet teaching method, this brand new teaching pattern discusses whether the network autonomous learning environment is really helpful to cultivate students' Language application ability. A good case flashed in my minds is that Jilin university of finance and economic has been taking some survey among 160 more or less students from the grade 2011. Almost 100 percent graduates took part in this test, thus, the result of exam comes form more than these students who focus on and care about. For 80% students, the network autonomous learning resources is the platform combined mainly with "new horizon college English". Half of them surfed the web site occasionally, even 20% of the students barely visit this English learning website. 60% students approximately had the same common conscience that the network resources which had different levels compose the barrier to choose. 85% hope that this platform can provide the three-dimensional teaching resources, and 58% wish to further enrich the network database resource that could provide more training test based on band 4 and band 6. However, it is easier for us to find that this network autonomous learning platform management still exists a lot of problems, and the following passages illustrate several aspects:

First of all, since 2011 6 language labs were set, 2012 the number of lab was rising to 10, which contain 640 seats for students to study and practice. But the graduates still can not be accepted in these auto-video classrooms. Meanwhile the software resources are limited as well, and let us take "new horizon college English" platform as example, from 2008 to 2011, it is the unique internet independent learning method. This phenomenon was changed in 2012, with added some new learning platform. During these 5 years, these two sets of network platform
are still unable to improve the students' learning interest. The instability of the system (including software and hardware) has already demonstrated the separation of time and space, for students, they hardly know what kind of knowledge was to be kept, and which intellectual content was to be given up. At the same time, teachers are busy paying their attention to the problems on the classroom teaching and processing system, thus, it is a pity that they have no time to guide students' learning. While the teachers have already been trained, the technical ability to control and operate the network platform is limited, to some extent, it is failed to solve student's problem immediately. Furthermore, this problem greatly reduced the students' learning effect. Secondly, the lack of autonomous learning consciousness is the extremely severe problem. Only some part of the students could make their own learning plan, arrange their own study time, regular review knowledge especially at ordinary times. On the contrary, almost of the students have no awareness to assess and evaluate themselves. What's more, only few students can summarize English learning weekly to monitor the learning behavior. Since lacking of autonomous learning methods, most students only care about the scores of paper, but not take into consideration study and further expansion, which are more serious for them. The evaluation made by the teachers was gave the priority to the online test paper, online time. The teachers lack the mutual contact with the students, even They bear the three classes each week. It is also hard for the students to contact with those tutors via face to face conversation. The real time between between students and teachers becomes limited.

5 Suggestions

The focus on training students' independent setting goals, planning, self-monitoring, self-assessment and self-adjusting ability were listed as the first suggested method. The teachers can cultivate students the consciousness and the ability of autonomous learning in many ways, such as lectures, setting learning task, encouraging cooperative learning, checking the learning effect. And then the students' autonomous learning ability could be improved consciously. In the process of network autonomous learning, the teachers, aiming at the problems faced by students, combining with teaching progress, are to help students to develop practical autonomous learning as their final goals. Thus, they should contain the stronger ability of technology and education, suing the software and hardware facilities and network resources, organize students to take part in online learning, and guarantee the quality of the whole network autonomous learning. Multimedia and network technology has been widely used in classroom teaching and students' autonomous learning. The traditional old teaching method which only paid attention to reflect the learning outcomes is out of date, even it will be replaced by the new assessment approach—the autonomous learning, and based on this teaching process, students carry out effective evaluation. It is high time for us teachers to build students' autonomous learning files that students could find the result of online autonomous learning archives and grading. This also effectively arouse the students' self-consciousness, initiative their learning, form the awareness of self-supervising, which is really beneficial for students.

6 Conclusion

Students' autonomous study is not full of freedom. Establishing the management model of English study in college is not the requirement of innovative reforms, but the necessary assurance of cultivating talented and applicable talents.

There is still a lot of space to get enhanced. Apart from the traditional political and educational management, the management does need the participation of study pals, professors and participants of all kinds to offer students' feasible study plans, strategies and activities, etc.

In terms of cultivating goals, the main goal is to cultivate students' own initiative of studying on their own without parents’ or teachers’ supervision, improving their self-management abilities. In addition, it is also of vital importance to let them fully understand their study process which might be the clues for them to study harder and make efforts. Afterwards, according to what has been discussed above, students themselves should learn to use utensils of all kinds to refer to things they do not know. Only through that way, can they flexibly apply what they have learnt to practice in success, thus turning the so-called compulsory study to lifelong and self-directed study.

When it comes to the teaching method, revolutionary reforms should be emphasized in an attempt to underpin the inspiration and creation of teaching method to ensure the central status of students in the teaching process, realizing the interaction between teachers and students, students themselves and humans and machines. Through this, can students’ unique personalities be excavated.

When talking about means of teaching, the mains focus should be gravitated from previous textbooks to cutting-edge technology such as courseware and relevant high-tech internet etc.

References