

Needs Analysis of English for Occupational and Specific Purposes

By

*Tariq Mahmood Khan¹, Ghulamullah², M. Naeem Mohsin³, Ashiq Hussain Dogar⁴
and Ahmed Sher Awan¹*

¹Department of Science Education Institute of Education and Research University of the Punjab Lahore

²Beaconhouse National University Lahore, Pakistan

³Department of Educational Sciences Islamic Religious Pedagogy, University of Vienna, Austria

⁴Controller Examinations University of Education Lahore

Abstract

English for Specific Purposes is not a different variety of English in its nature. In the sense of linguistic terminology ESP means, what learner needs in target situation or what he/she wants about his function of language usage or what are his/her needs according to his/her own views. Needs analysis is a process which is undertaken by trainers, teachers and course designers to ascertain the pre-requisites for developing a course along with its plan implementation. Munby,s (1978) work on needs analysis in ESP is a landmark for the coming linguists. Although he has been criticized bitterly by linguists yet he is also a precedent in the field of ESP. There are seven approached to needs analysis: deficiency analysis, strategy analysis, means analysis, language audits, set-menu needs analysis, computer based needs analysis and target/deficiency needs analysis. Three methods as pre course, mid course and post course are used for conducting needs analysis. In this study two instruments are used to find out the needs of target situation, learners' needs, wants and their lacks. First a questionnaire is used as an instrument to get information. The second tool to get data is semi structured interview which is used to collect the qualitative data. It is indicated by these instrument that all the learners are educated and good in general English but for their business they need training in specific fields. Although speaking and listening functions are performed mostly in their business yet the development of some specific reading and writing functions can also play an important role in promoting their business.

Keywords: Capacity, Threshold level, communicative syllabus design, English for academic, constellation, English for general purpose, English language teaching, English for occupational purpose, English for specific purpose, Sequitur.