

THE INFLUENCE OF TEMPERAMENT CHARACTERISTICS ON CHOOSING LANGUAGE LEARNING METHODS IN ENGLISH CLASSES

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Abstract: Language acquisition is a multifaceted process, influenced by a variety of factors such as motivation, cognitive abilities, environment, and even personal characteristics, including temperament. Temperament refers to an individual's inherent behavioral style and emotional responses, and it can significantly impact how a learner engages with and approaches language learning. This article explores the influence of temperament on choosing language learning methods in English classes, shedding light on how different learners' personalities shape their learning experiences.

Keywords: temperament, language learning methods, English classes, personality traits, learning preferences.

1. Introduction

Mastering a new language is a complex process influenced by various social, emotional, and cognitive factors. Among these, an individual's temperament plays a crucial role in shaping their preferred learning methods. "Temperament" refers to inherent personality traits that affect how students engage with educational experiences. While some learners thrive in structured, rule-oriented environments, others excel in interactive, hands-on approaches. Recognizing these temperament-based preferences allows educators to tailor English language instruction to be more effective and personalized.

Temperament characteristics significantly influence the strategies used in English language learning. Students' learning approaches and the techniques that work best for them often align with their unique traits and preferences. Below are key insights into how temperament can impact language acquisition in an English classroom.

Изучение языка — это сложный процесс, на который влияют множество социальных, эмоциональных и когнитивных факторов. Среди них важную роль играет темперамент человека, определяющий предпочтительные способы освоения нового языка. Термин «темперамент» относится к врождённым чертам личности, которые определяют, как учащиеся взаимодействуют с образовательными возможностями. В то время как одни студенты лучше усваивают материал в строгих, основанных на правилах условиях, другим комфортнее в интерактивной, практической среде. Осознавая эти предпочтения, связанные с темпераментом, учителя могут разрабатывать более персонализированные и эффективные уроки английского языка.

Черты темперамента могут значительно влиять на стратегии изучения языка, применяемые на уроках английского. Подходы студентов к обучению и наиболее подходящие для них методы часто связаны с индивидуальными особенностями и предпочтениями. Ниже приведены ключевые моменты, объясняющие, как темперамент может повлиять на освоение языка на уроке английского.

2. The Influence of Temperament Characteristics on Choosing Language Learning Methods in English Classes

Language acquisition is a multifaceted process, influenced by a variety of factors such as motivation, cognitive abilities, environment, and even personal characteristics, including temperament. Temperament refers to an individual's inherent behavioral style and emotional responses, and it can significantly impact how a learner engages with and approaches language learning. This article explores the influence of temperament on choosing language learning methods in English classes, shedding light on how different learners' personalities shape their learning experiences.

Understanding Temperament and Language Learning

Temperament is often classified into several types based on a person's characteristic emotional reactions and interaction with their environment. The most common framework is based on the theory of four basic temperaments: sanguine, choleric, melancholic, and phlegmatic. Each of these temperaments is associated with distinct behavioral tendencies, such as emotional reactivity, activity level, sociability, and attention to detail. These temperamental traits, in turn, play a role in determining the learning preferences of individuals.

The link between temperament and learning is evident in educational psychology, where researchers have found that temperament influences motivation, concentration, and even the methods learners find most effective in acquiring new skills. In the context of English language learning, understanding how temperament affects learners' preferences can help instructors tailor teaching methods to suit their students' unique characteristics.

3. The Four Temperament Types and Their Influence on Learning

Sanguine Learners: The Sanguine temperament is characterized by sociability, enthusiasm, and a preference for novelty and interaction. Sanguine learners are typically energetic and thrive in interactive, dynamic environments. They enjoy group activities, such as role-playing, discussions, and collaborative projects, as these provide ample opportunities for social engagement. These learners benefit from communicative methods like task-based language teaching (TBLT), which emphasizes real-world language use and active participation.

Learning Method Preferences: Sanguine learners are likely to favor interactive methods, including language games, group discussions, and peer interactions. These learners may struggle with isolated study methods like grammar drills or reading comprehension exercises that lack a social element.

Choleric Learners: Choleric learners are assertive, goal-oriented, and driven by achievement. They tend to be highly focused, organized, and eager to succeed. Choleric individuals enjoy structured environments and may prefer traditional, teacher-centered methods that involve clear goals, rules, and measurable outcomes. They excel in environments where their progress can be tracked, such as through exams or assignments that test their language proficiency.

Learning Method Preferences: Choleric learners may prefer methods that emphasize self-study, such as using apps or textbooks that offer a structured approach to language learning. They are also more likely to excel in methods like grammar-translation or direct instruction, where the focus is on mastering rules and achieving clear language competence .

Melancholic Learners: The melancholic temperament is often associated with analytical thinking, attention to detail, and a preference for deep understanding. Melancholic learners are reflective and may take longer to process new information. They tend to favor learning methods that involve critical thinking and personal reflection. This type of learner may enjoy working through complex grammar exercises or reading literature that requires careful analysis and interpretation.

Learning Method Preferences: Melancholic learners are likely to gravitate toward methods that involve detailed analysis of the language, such as grammar-focused approaches, vocabulary drills, and translation exercises. They may also excel in methods that involve self-reflection, such as journaling or individual reading assignments that allow them to explore language at their own pace .

Phlegmatic Learners: Phlegmatic learners are calm, patient, and methodical in their approach to tasks. They often prefer a slower, more deliberate pace of learning and may feel overwhelmed by fast-paced or highly competitive environments. Phlegmatic learners tend to avoid confrontation and prefer cooperative learning settings that emphasize collaboration and mutual support over competition.

Learning Method Preferences: Phlegmatic learners tend to excel in methods that emphasize a gentle, gradual approach to language acquisition. They may enjoy immersive language experiences, such as listening to stories or participating in discussions in a relaxed, supportive setting. They are less likely to enjoy high-pressure activities like timed tests or competitive games .

4. Implications for English Language Teaching

Recognizing the role of temperament in language learning has significant implications for English language teaching. Teachers who understand the temperament of their students can design more personalized and effective lessons that cater to individual needs, resulting in greater motivation and improved learning outcomes.

Sociability and Group Work: Teachers can leverage the strengths of sanguine learners by incorporating group activities that allow for language practice in social contexts. Using group projects, debates, and collaborative assignments can help these learners engage more fully with the language.

Structured Goals and Feedback: Choleric learners benefit from clear goals, structured lessons, and tangible results. Teachers should provide regular feedback, quizzes, and assessments to

ensure that these learners remain focused and motivated. Offering clear milestones in their language learning journey will help them stay on track.

Reflection and Analysis: For melancholic learners, a focus on analytical tasks and deep reflection is crucial. Teachers can encourage these learners to explore complex texts, engage in detailed grammar exercises, and express their thoughts in writing. This approach helps them develop a deeper understanding of the language.

Supportive and Relaxed Environments: Phlegmatic learners thrive in calm, supportive environments. Teachers can create a stress-free atmosphere that encourages gradual learning through immersion, storytelling, and collaborative tasks that build confidence without pressure.

5. Conclusion

Temperament significantly influences the way individuals engage with language learning, including English. Recognizing the relationship between personality traits and learning styles enables educators to develop more customized and effective teaching approaches. By adapting language instruction to accommodate various temperament types, teachers can create a more inclusive and dynamic classroom atmosphere that caters to students' diverse needs. Acknowledging the role of temperament helps make language learning both more enjoyable and more successful for all learners.

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