

## Forming Speaking Competence of A1 Level Pupils

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**Abstract:** This article discusses the distinguish features of speaking skills of A1 level learners and suggests some strategies and approaches to help educators foster speaking skills among A1 pupils, enabling them to build confidence and fluency in their target language.

**Key points:** Speaking competence, effective communication, oral fluency, accuracy, conversation, pronunciation.

English is recognized as the most valued and widely spoken language in the world today. Many methods are being used to teach this language to learners easily and effectively. It is admitted that four skills, reading, listening, speaking and writing, are equally important in learning English. But the most important for understanding and using the language is communication competence.

The ability to communicate verbally facilitates building relationships with others. Strong speaking skills enable individuals to establish rapport, interact, and connect with people from diverse backgrounds, fostering social bonds and a sense of belonging. Additionally, effective speaking allows individuals to articulate complex thoughts, apply critical thinking skills, and engage in problem-solving discussions. It accelerates the exchange of ideas, constructive feedback, and collaboration, leading to innovative solutions and intellectual growth.

When it comes to the beginner level learners, developing speaking competence is essential as it lays the foundation for effective communication in a foreign language. Developing speaking competence at the A1 level helps learners build confidence in using the foreign language. By practicing speaking and actively participating in language activities, learners overcome language barriers, enhance their oral fluency, and gain the self-assurance needed to engage in conversations. This confidence boost fuels motivation, encouraging learners to continue their language learning journey. Communication competence focuses on developing accurate pronunciation and the ability to produce sounds and intonation patterns specific to the target language. A1 level learners familiarize themselves with basic vocabulary and sentence structures, allowing them to express themselves clearly and be understood by others. This oral expression lays the foundation for effective communication and comprehension in subsequent language learning stages.

When aiming to develop speaking skill for A1 level pupils, it's essential to focus on building their confidence and providing ample opportunities for practice. Many effective ways can be used to achieve this goal. The most widely distributed example of this is dialogue and role-plays. This engages students in simple dialogues and role-play activities that simulate real-life situations. For

example, create dialogues for ordering food at a restaurant or asking for directions. This helps students practice using the target language in context.

Another effective method to improve speaking skill is pair or group work. This activity encourages students to interact with their peers through pair or group work. This allows for more speaking opportunities and boosts confidence. Assign tasks like interviews, information gap activities, or discussing given topics to promote conversation. Furthermore, using vocabulary and basic expressions in a daily basis can result productively. Teacher might begin the lesson by introducing and practicing basic vocabulary related to everyday topics such as greetings, introducing oneself, family, hobbies, food, daily routines. Flashcards, image-based activities, and role-playing exercises to reinforce vocabulary retention might also be useful.

Overall, the importance of speaking skill cannot be overstated, as it plays a crucial role in effective communication. Forming speaking competence at the A1 level requires a combination of effective strategies and approaches that foster confidence, fluency, and accuracy. By creating a supportive learning environment, providing ample speaking opportunities, and incorporating various interactive activities, educators can help A1 level pupils develop their speaking skills and set them on the path to linguistic proficiency.

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