

Introduction



**Exploring the possibilities of teaching English through
community radio in Bangladesh: A qualitative survey on
“Radio Pollikontho-99.2fm”**

Kazi Mafizur Rahaman

Lecturer

BRAC Institute of Languages (BIL), BRAC University

Outline of the presentation

1. Background, Purpose & Significance of the study
2. Research Questions
3. Methodology and Data Collection
4. Key Findings
5. Recommendations
6. Question/Answer

Background, Purpose & Significance of the study

- Teaching English in Bangladesh
- Community Radio in Bangladesh
- BNNRC, BELFORA, BRAC and BRAC CEP
- Purpose of the study
- Significance of the study
- Scope of the study

Teaching English in Bangladesh

- Lack of Quality Teachers and Teacher Training
- Teaching as a subject not Skill
- Students do not have the required proficiency
- Less scope for using English
- Teaching in Mother Tongue
- Changing Govt. Decision

Community Radio in Bangladesh

- Started in: 2012
- Number of Station : 14
- Programmes Hour: 120 hours/Per day
- Focus on: Empowerment and right to information for the rural community
- Workers: 536 Youth Women & Youth as rural broadcasters
- Future Goal : Community Television

BNNRC: Community Radio in Bangladesh



Community media: Voices to be heard
Voices of the rural people in Bangladesh



BELFORA:

- Basic English Language for Outreach Radio Audience Bangladesh
- [Pilot Project English Language through Community Radio Pollikantho 99.2]
- Project Funded by: American Center, Embassy of the United States of America, Dhaka, Bangladesh



- The largest non-governmental development organization in the world, measured by the number of employees and the number of people it has helped.
- Established at : 1972
- Number of Employees: over 100,000 people.
- Roughly 70 percent of whom are women
- Reaching more than 126 million people.
- The organization is 70-80% self-funded through a number of commercial enterprises

BRAC Community Programme (CEP)



Radio Pollikontho 99.2 FM



Research Questions

How can community radio be a more useful tool for teaching-learning English Language to the marginalized people?

Methodology and Data Collection

- Focused Group Discussion (FGD)
- Listening Radio Programme
- Document Analysis
- Interview
- Material Analysis

Key Findings

- Programmes of Radio Pollikontho 99.2FM: 2 programmes
- Importance of Radio for learning English
- Content/Topic: Long Sentences, Difficult words
- Material/Language of the content: Dialogues only, Not Focused
- Timing and Duration of the Programme: Twice in a Week for 20 minutes

Recommendations

- Course designing
- Needs analysis
- Aims and Objectives
- Availability of the materials
- Broadcasting time can be changed
- Texts should be shorter
- Every day English should be focused

Materials

1. Authentic materials
2. Music, Drama, Discussion, Jokes, Eevryday expressions
3. Asking Direction, giving Direction, Real life English, opening Bank Account, Buying a Ticket, asking for food, Giving Instructions, Asking Questions etc

References:

1. Radio Pollikntha 99.2FM: website: <http://www.brac.net/node/1298#.UoJSGHAWprc>
2. Fraser, C. & Estrada, S. R. (2002). Community radio for change and development. Society for international development. 45(4), 69–73, Retrieved from <http://www.sagepublications.com/>
3. Chowdhury, R. & Le Ha, P. (2008). Reflecting on western TESOL training and Communicative Language teaching: Bangladeshi teachers' voices. Asia Pacific Journal of Education, 28, 305-316.
4. Ministry of Information of GoB. (2008). National Strategy for the Implementation of Community Radio Installation, Broadcast and Operations Policy in Bangladesh. Dhaka. Retrieved from http://www.unicef.org/bangladesh/CM_layout_Eng_web.pdf
5. Pavarala, V & K K Malik (2007). Other Voices: The Struggle For Commu Prehn, O (1991): “From Small Scale Utopism to Large Scale Pragmatism” in N Jankowski, O Prehn and J Stappers (ed.), The People’s Voice: Local Radio and Television in Europe (London: John Libbey).
6. Power, T. & Shrestha, P. (2010). Mobile technologies for (English) language learning: An exploration in the context of Bangladesh. Paper presented at: IADIS International Conference: Mobile Learning 2010, 19 - 21March 2010, Porto, Portugal.

Thank You

Any Question?

Or

Your Thoughtful Feedback?