

UNDERSTANDING THE 4+2 ENGLISH LANGUAGE APPROACH: A PERSONAL REFLECTION ON MY INTERNSHIP

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Abstract: This article explores the 4+2 English Language Program and reflects on my personal experiences during the school internship. The 4+2 program offers a unique approach to learning, integrating both theoretical and practical aspects of the English language. Throughout my internship, I was able to observe and participate in various teaching methods, gaining insight into the challenges and rewards of teaching English in a real classroom setting. This paper highlights key experiences, challenges, and the impact of the 4+2 curriculum on my development as a future educator, emphasizing its practical relevance and educational value.

Keywords: 4+2 English language program, English language teaching, Internship experience, Educational practices, Language curriculum, Practical teaching method, Teacher development, Classroom observation

INTRODUCTION

The 4+2 English Language Program is an innovative educational approach that blends theoretical knowledge with practical application, offering a comprehensive framework for language learning and teaching. Throughout my internship experience, I had the opportunity to engage with this curriculum in a real classroom setting, which provided invaluable insights into the dynamics of English language education. By observing various teaching methods and participating in classroom activities, I was able to witness firsthand the challenges and rewards of language instruction. This article reflects on my experiences within the 4+2 program, focusing on the impact of the curriculum on both my personal development as a future educator and the broader educational landscape.

Through this exploration, I aim to highlight the effectiveness of student-centered learning, the role of practical teaching methods, and the essential skills necessary for future educators in the field of language education.

FINDINGS

Effective Integration of Theory and Practice: The 4+2 English Language Program successfully bridges the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application. During my internship, I observed that students were able to apply language theories in real-life contexts, enhancing their language proficiency. The hands-on approach fostered a deeper understanding of the English language, making learning more relevant and engaging.

Diverse Teaching Methods: Throughout the internship, various teaching methods were employed, including communicative language teaching, task-based learning, and group activities. These methods proved to be effective in creating an interactive and student-centered learning environment. I noticed that when students were actively involved in their learning process, their language skills improved more significantly compared to traditional, teacher-centered approaches.

Challenges in Classroom Management: One of the main challenges I encountered was classroom management. With diverse learning styles and varying levels of proficiency, maintaining engagement and discipline was sometimes difficult. However, I found that clear communication and structured lesson plans helped mitigate these challenges. Establishing a positive and supportive classroom atmosphere was crucial for maintaining student focus and participation.

Development of Teaching Skills: The internship experience played a vital role in my growth as a future educator. By actively participating in teaching sessions and collaborating with experienced teachers, I gained valuable skills in lesson planning, student assessment, and adapting teaching strategies to meet individual needs. I also developed a stronger sense of how to create an inclusive learning environment that caters to different learning styles and needs.

Practical Relevance of the Curriculum: The 4+2 program's focus on real-world application was particularly beneficial in preparing

students for practical language use. Students were not only taught grammar and vocabulary but also how to use English in authentic contexts, such as in discussions, debates, and real-world problem-solving tasks. This practical relevance ensured that students felt confident using English outside the classroom.

Student Engagement and Motivation: The 4+2 approach's emphasis on interactive learning and student involvement significantly increased student engagement and motivation. When students were given the opportunity to actively participate in lessons, they were more enthusiastic and committed to their learning. Group projects and peer collaboration encouraged a sense of community, which further boosted motivation and confidence.

Insights for Future Educators: As a future educator, the internship highlighted the importance of flexibility, patience, and continuous professional development. The experience reinforced that effective teaching is not only about delivering content but also about understanding and responding to the diverse needs of students. By reflecting on my internship, I learned how to balance theory with practice and how to cultivate a classroom environment that promotes both academic and personal growth.

CONCLUSION

The 4+2 English Language Program proved to be an enriching and transformative experience, both for the students and for me as a future educator. Through the integration of theory and practical application, the program not only enhanced students' language skills but also fostered a more interactive and student-centered approach to learning. The diverse teaching methods, while effective in engaging students, also presented challenges such as classroom management, which provided valuable learning experiences for me as an intern. The real-world relevance of the curriculum and the emphasis on active student participation significantly contributed to increased motivation and language proficiency.

Reflecting on my internship, I gained essential insights into the complexities of teaching English and the importance of adapting to the diverse needs of students. This experience reinforced the significance of continuous professional development and the need for

educators to remain flexible and responsive in the classroom. Overall, the 4+2 program not only provided practical teaching experience but also deepened my understanding of the crucial role that language education plays in shaping confident, capable learners.

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