

Research of English Teaching to Vocational Students in Paired-Assistance Program

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Abstract

Language is a tool to enhance communication and expand thinking skills. After the Tibetan minority students came to a Shanghai secondary vocational school under the government paired assistance program, their mastery and proficiency in Mandarin Chinese directly affected their integration into the process of studying and living in the metropolis. Their English level will also affect their humanistic literacy, academic education and future employability. The purpose of the three-year program is to balance the Chinese economic development between the Eastern coastal region and the Western remote areas, to train more young professionals and skilled talents so that they can upgrade the livability of their hometown after graduation. However, currently, most Tibetan students lack English background and good study habits, which makes it a tough task for teachers to carry on with the standard curriculum in traditional classroom teaching settings. Taking the 2021 Qinghai Tibetan class taught by the author as an example, this paper summarizes the reasons of their poor performance in English learning. It also explores various teaching methods in an attempt to achieve the government goals.

Keywords: Tibetan students; English; vocational education; training; teaching