



Efficacy of Running Commentary as a Technique to Enhance Communication Skills

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Abstract: Effective communication is crucial for personal and professional success, and various techniques have been developed to enhance communication skills. One such technique is running commentary, which involves vocalizing one's thoughts and actions in real-time. Running commentary is a verbalization technique that can improve communication skills in a variety of contexts. The main purpose of this paper is to highlight the importance of running commentary as one of the most useful methods to enhance our communication skills. Research through different methods suggests that it can improve self-awareness, active listening, group communication, and language learning. This article investigates the efficacy of running commentary as a communication technique using a mixed-methods approach. The use of these mixed-methodology approach, including surveys, interviews, and observation of communication practices, allowed for a comprehensive investigation of the effects of running commentary on communication skills. We have carried out few experiments and observed that it can be implemented in our daily life. Running commentary can promote self-awareness by allowing individual to gain insight into their thought processes, emotions, and behaviour. This increased self-awareness can lead to better emotional regulation and more effective communication. Active listening skills were also enhanced by running commentary, with participants reporting a more engaged listening style that improved their ability to understand the perspectives of others. In addition, group communication was positively impacted, with participants reporting clearer and more effective communication practices. Finally, language learning was improved as participants increased their proficiency in a foreign language by verbalizing their thoughts and actions. Overall, running commentary can be tagged as an effective communication strategy for enhancing various communication skills. By using running commentary, individuals can become more effective communicators, build successful personal and professional relationships and improve their overall quality of life. By engaging in running commentary, individuals can develop their ability to articulate their thoughts and ideas in a clear and concise manner, which is an essential skill for effective communication. Further research is needed to be carried out in a broader scale to determine the long-term effects of running commentary on communication skills.

Keywords: Running commentary, Self-awareness, Active listening, Language learning.

I. INTRODUCTION

Running Commentary plays a crucial role in immersing audiences in the moment and providing a comprehensive understanding of the event at hand. It goes beyond mere reporting by offering expert analysis, historical context, and personal anecdotes. Commentators provide context, analysis, and interpretation, helping viewers understand the significance and implications of the situation. Running commentary bridges the gap between the event and the audience, transforming passive observers into active participants. It fosters a sense of community, sparking conversations and debates among viewers. By adding depth, context, and entertainment value, running commentary elevates the overall viewing experience and keeps audiences engaged and informed.



Fig 1.1 A live Football Match Running Commentary



II. PRIMARY FOCUS: STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The primary purpose of bringing into light the context of Running Commentary is to enhance the communication skills in varied fields. This paper focuses on utilising Running Commentary as an influential tool to provoke the nation get familiar with the extraordinary power of effective communication in their daily lives.

Running Commentary refers to a continuous and on-going verbal narration to give the audience a virtual tour of the event which is taking place. It serves as a vital component in various forms of media, including radio, television, and online streaming platforms. Its purpose is to enhance the audience's understanding and enjoyment of the event, particularly for those who are unable to witness it firsthand. Through detailed and dynamic descriptions, the commentator aims to paint a vivid picture, allowing listeners or viewers to visualize the actions as it unfolds. We generally see its application in sports broadcasting, news reporting and in journalism too. This research has followed a mixed methodology as it is a combination of analysis of different factual elements and it also analysed a survey report to get a better picture.

III. ESSENTIALITY OF RUNNING COMMENTARY

a. Enhances the Audience Understanding Ability:

Contextualization: Commentators provide relevant background information about the event, participants, and historical significance. This context helps viewers better comprehend the significance and implications of what is happening.

Analysis: Commentators offer expert analysis of the event, breaking down complex strategies, tactics, and decisions. They explain the reasoning behind certain actions, helping viewers understand the intricacies of the sport or the issues being discussed.

Interpretation: Running commentary goes beyond the surface-level observations and delves into the underlying meaning or potential outcomes. Commentators offer insights into the potential consequences of specific actions, helping viewers develop a deeper understanding of the event.

Educational elements: Commentators may provide explanations of rules, regulations, or techniques, especially in sports where the audience may not be familiar with all the nuances. This educational aspect helps viewers expand their knowledge and appreciation of the event.

Emotional connection: Running commentary brings the event to life by expressing emotions, excitement, and enthusiasm. By immersing viewers in the moment, it helps them connect with the event on a deeper level, enhancing their understanding and emotional engagement.

b. Provides Enjoyment with Additional Information and Insights:

Enriching the narrative: Running commentary adds layers of information and storytelling to the event. Commentators share anecdotes, historical context, and personal insights that bring depth and richness to the narrative. This additional information sparks curiosity and creates a more engaging experience for viewers.

Expert analysis: Commentators provide expert analysis and interpretation of the event. They offer unique perspectives, strategic insights, and predictions that enhance the audience's understanding of the game or situation. This analytical commentary adds intellectual stimulation and allows viewers to appreciate the event from a more informed standpoint.

Behind-the-scenes knowledge: Commentators often have access to behind-the-scenes information, such as player interviews, training updates, or team dynamics. Sharing this insider knowledge with the audience provides a glimpse into the inner workings of the event, creating a sense of exclusivity and making viewers feel more connected to the action.

c. Helps to focus the present Ongoing Situation:

Real-time updates: Commentators provide immediate updates on the ongoing situation, ensuring that the audience is aware of the latest developments. This real-time information helps viewers stay engaged and focused on what is currently happening, preventing them from missing any crucial moments.

Play-by-play description: Running commentary offers a detailed play-by-play description of the event. By narrating the actions and events as they unfold, commentators help viewers follow along and stay connected to the present moment. This descriptive approach keeps the audience tuned in and focused on the ongoing situation.



Audience interaction: Some forms of running commentary allow for audience interaction, such as live chats or social media engagement. This interaction provides an opportunity for viewers to actively participate, share their thoughts, and ask questions. By involving the audience, running commentary helps to maintain focus and keeps viewers actively engaged in the present situation.

IV. HOW DOES RUNNING COMMENTARY SERVE AS CYCLE OF SMOOTH EFFORTLESS COMMUNICATION

The purpose of the running commentary in this paper is to concentrate on ELT (English Training Teaching) so that students can learn basic tenses for improved comprehension, where instantaneous sense can be transmitted using either the simple present or the progressive. It also enriches the vocabulary of the learners so that they can communicate, compare, and describe their feelings, emotions, and actions with each other. They can easily access their skills by confidently participating in events like elocution, storytelling, anchoring, etc.

V. ARIOUS ASPECTS OF RUNNING COMMENTARY

There are various ways where running Commentary proves their value in order to shape our lifestyle in an effective way:

a. Mindfulness:

It involves focussing on our present moments and being aware of whatever is happening around us without diverting our minds from our present works. It is a key by which we can fully concentrate on our works and pay attention to the speaker and try to understand whatever is being said and get to know the literal meanings of the words thus by improving our hearing ability.

b. Articulation

The coordinated movements of the lips, tongue, teeth, palate (roof of the mouth), and respiratory system (lungs) are necessary for sound generation. There are also many different nerves and muscles used for speech. In simple words it is utterance of different sounds properly. Running Commentary helps in proper articulation of the words and pronounce them in the correct way. Apart from that, it bridges the thoughts with a proper concrete expression.

Along with these above highlighted points, it also helps us to compare and understand both the literal and contextual meanings of the words and proceed with the communication in the appropriate way.

c. Communication Cycle:

Running Commentary also focuses on the Communication Cycle where the sender sends the message where the message gets encode and then reaches the recipient through a channel and gets decoded. Here we can highlight both the scenarios of the speaker's as well as the listener's point of view simultaneously. The speaker gets benefited as it helps to increase the fluency, enriches the vocabulary, and speak with proper forms of speech and pronunciation. On the other hand, the listener learns to improve their concentration and be an active listener and increase their hearing ability.

d. Audio visual synchronisation:

It plays an important role in Audio Visual mode of Communication where the participants must pay attention to their observation as well their listening ability simultaneously. They need to focus on the live events going on in front of them and listen to the audio and understand the literal and contextual meaning at the same time, thus preparing themselves as proficient communicator in their personal as well as professional lives and building themselves as multitasker at the same time.

Thus, considering all the advantages of running commentary it can be concluded by saying if we can implement this tool as a technique to enhance as daily communication skills, we are going to experience a huge development in framing ourselves in the best way possible with fluency, proper pronunciation, and confidence in ourselves thus making our personal and professional life achieve great heights.

VI. CASE STUDIES REFERENCES WITH SOME FACTUAL STATISTICS

A google form survey was followed on Running Commentary for college students in order to observe it as an effective tool to enhance the communication skills for the people worldwide. The questions were mostly based on different aspects of utilisation of Running Commentary in the enrichment of daily communication skills which can be beneficial to the crowd on a global scale. Two videos of running commentary were there in the survey, one from sports and the other from live news update. Based on these two, different questions were set to record participants' point of view. The survey was organised among two types of participants from diverse backgrounds. - those who are familiar with following running commentary and those who are not. This diversity helped to understand the gradual growth that Running Commentary can bring and nurture. It has been observed that the experienced participants didn't face much difficulties in understanding and analyzing the shared videos. However, the novice participants faced various challenges. The following response details has portrayed those challenges.

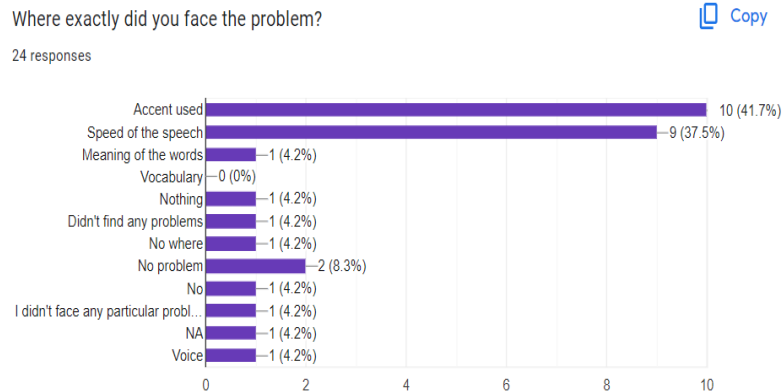


Fig. 1.2 Response Graph

Different accent, intonation of a new language, unknown vocabulary, fluency - these were the most common issues from this response graph. In another question, it was noticed that participants daily lifestyle, interests create an impact in understanding a new language. For example, those who are connected to sports found the first video easier to follow and enjoy. On the other hands, participants who are regular news readers or followers enjoyed the second one more effortlessly. Few of them were familiar with both.

Which one of the two videos could you connect more with? and why?

22 responses

- Sports commentary, because I can connect with sports specially cricket more easily
- I could connect more with the commentary of the weather forecasting videos as the words were clearer and the accent was audience friendly as compared to the sports commentary
- Both
- I connected with the second video better because that's the same news report I was watching during the lockdown days. I still remember the situation we faced.
- Sports because sports fascinates me and it makes the event which is taking place easier for me to understand
- The first one .
- I connected with the second video more. The reason being, the reporter spoke slowly and fluently. His accent was the one I am comfortable with.

Fig. 1.3 Question and Responses

(This survey was taken by many of the renowned colleges in Kolkata.)

VII. OUTCOMES AND IMPLICATIONS OF THE RESEARCH

A comparative study has been set up showing the gradual increase in the graphical representation thus highlighting the improvement of daily communication skills where Running Commentary plays the most important role.

The research has shown that people who are accustomed with listening to Running Commentary over a long time did not face much difficulties in understanding the language or the vocabulary, in fact the speed of the commentary did not bother them much. Even they were quite used to with the new set of vocabularies in their own expressions. On the other hand, those who were not familiar with running commentaries and are new to these, faced quite a few problems regarding the speed, vocabulary, accent and meaning of the words used in the commentaries. Hence it can be concluded that listening to Running commentaries on a regular basis even when it comes to entertainment can furnish with fruitful results, thus sharpening the fluency and widening the vocabulary, making a conversation short and effective.

**VIII. CONCLUSION**

Considering all the above advantageous ways, how Running Commentary can be used worldwide as an effective tool of daily communication skills we can conclude our research work by mentioning that Running Commentary will serve as an effortless and smooth cycle of communication. It follows the audio-visual synchronization where the audience can not only listen to a commentary along with viewing the event taking place but also getting emotionally attached to the words of the speech i.e., getting burst into laughter in response to a joke as well as responding with a grumpy face to any serious commentaries proves that they are into the show and enjoying every bit of it. Therefore, Running Commentary also acts as a multi-tasking tool which if followed frequently can not only help us enhance our communication skills but also making us well versed with the global language i.e., English to build our communication skills in the most effective ways thus shaping our lifestyle and helping us to be super successful in future.

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