

Designing an Online Spoken English Course Based on Outcome-Based Education (OBE) Bloom's Taxonomy Model Using the LMS Edmodo – A Pilot Study

J. Jaya Parveen, Asst. Professor (English)

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Outcome Based Education (OBE)

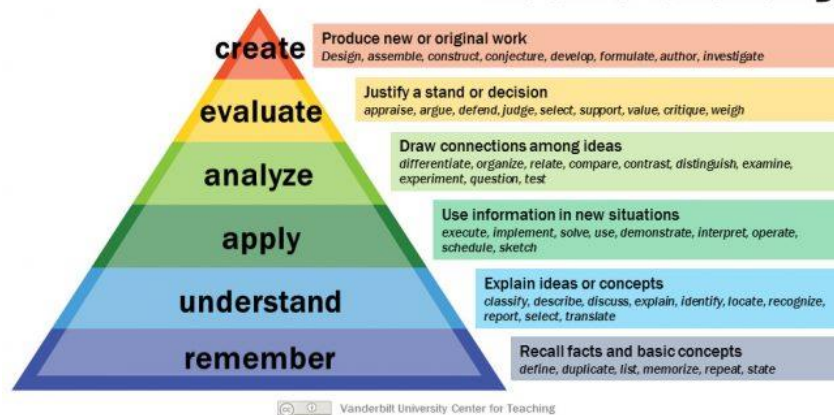
According to Spady (1994), Outcome Based Education (OBE) should focus on and organise whatever is essential for the students to achieve through their learning experience (at large) and by the end of the course (in specific). To implement OBE method worldwide, *The Washington Accord* was introduced in 1989 which was signed by countries like Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Russia, Singapore, South Africa, UK, US, Pakistan, and China. India signed it in 2014.

The effective implementation of OBE is a challenging task. It has failed in the public schools of South Africa and Western Australia because of poor planning and implementation. It has succeeded in the private universities of UK, US, Hong Kong, Malaysia, etc. due to specific reasons like defining the learning outcomes clearly, training and certifying the OBE teachers and assessors, concentrating on continuous feedback and corrective measures, etc. (Rajesh & Parveen, 2013).

Bloom's Taxonomy

A committee including the educationalist Benjamin Bloom and his collaborators Max Englehart, Edward Furst, Walter Hill, and David Krathwohl introduced a framework for categorising educational goals *Taxonomy of Educational Objectives*, in their book *The Taxonomy of Educational Objectives, The Classification of Educational Goals, Handbook I: Cognitive Domain* published in 1956. (Armstrong, n.d.)

Bloom's Taxonomy



The three domains of learning are Cognitive, Affective, and Psychomotor. The Cognitive Domain includes 6 levels - Knowledge (Remember), Comprehension (Understand), Application, Analysis, Evaluation, and Synthesis (Create). Bloom's Taxonomy of Cognitive Domain is frequently used to write learning objectives / outcomes in Outcome Based Education model. Organising objectives / outcomes using Bloom's Taxonomy helps the teachers.

1. Plan and deliver appropriate instruction
2. Design valid assessment tasks and strategies
3. Ensure that instruction and assessment are aligned with the objectives (Armstrong, n.d.)

Online Spoken English Course in the LMS *Edmodo*

21st century learners are interested in using mobile technology rather than listening to oral lectures. They prefer online quizzes to classroom-based activities. They prefer *Whatsapp* recordings to face-to-face interactions. To facilitate language learning and develop their listening and speaking skills, 21st century teachers introduce innovative and creative teaching methods and materials. They use Learning Management Systems like *Edmodo* or *G-Suite* to design spoken tutorials.

Edge On - Online Spoken English Course introduced by the Postgraduate and Research Department of English, CTTE College for Women, Chennai, is designed by J. Jaya Parveen and V. Rajesh based on the Outcome Based Education (OBE) Bloom's Taxonomy model. It is designed using the Learning Management System (LMS) *Edmodo*. It is a 10-week course. It contains 10 Modules with 6 Units each. Each unit is designed based on the 6 levels in Bloom's Taxonomy (Remember, Understand, Apply, Analyse, Evaluate, and Create).

5 levels in each unit contain listening exercises with multiple-choice questions which are automatically evaluated by the Learning Management System (LMS) *Edmodo*. These online quizzes are a part of the Formative Assessment done through the LMS. Students send their recorded responses for speaking tasks through *Whatsapp* to their respective General English

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teachers. The teachers evaluate the responses using a speaking rubric. Certificates are provided for the students who successfully complete all the 10 modules in the *Online Spoken English* course.

The Course Objective (CO) is to develop the Spoken English of the students at undergraduate level. The expected Learning Outcomes (LO) are:

- ✓ The students will be able to listen and respond to basic English conversations.
- ✓ They will be able to identify and apply the key phrases while developing conversations.
- ✓ They will be able to analyse or evaluate the key phrases in basic English conversations.
- ✓ They will be able to create new contexts and develop their own conversations using relevant key phrases and sentence structures.

Edge On Online Spoken English - Lesson Plan Module Level 1 - Ask for / Give Directions

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|--------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| Program Objective | | The objective of the program is to introduce significant literary works, representative of different ages, culture, and religion, and improve the language skills, analytical skills, and research aptitude of the students using various speaking and writing tasks. |
| Course Objective | | The course objective is to develop the basic speaking skills of the students at undergraduate level. |
| Learning Outcomes | | The students will be able to listen to variety of conversations and respond actively, speak in different contexts using relevant sentence structures and key phrases, correct their pronunciation while speaking, and avoid the common errors while speaking and writing. |
| Module 1 | | Language Function - Ask for / Give Directions |
| Bloom's Taxonomy | Module Level Objective | The objective of this module is to make the students ask for / give directions. |
| Remember | Unit Level Objective 1.1 | Listen to the video and fill in the blanks with key phrases. |
| | Teaching Aid 1.1 | Video |
| Comprehend | Unit Level Objective 1.2 | Listen, comprehend, and answer Wh-questions. |
| | Teaching Aid 1.2 | Video |
| Apply | Unit Level Objective 1.3 | Look at the road map and apply relevant key phrases to ask for / give directions. |

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| | Teaching Aid 1.3 | Road Map |
| Analyse | Unit Level Objective 1.4 | Look at the road map, and distinguish between right and wrong directions. |
| | Teaching Aid 1.4 | Road Map |
| Evaluate | Unit Level Objective 1.5 | Listen to the conversation, and evaluate whether the person asks for / gives directions correctly. |
| | Teaching Aid 1.5 | Videos |
| Create / Synthesis | Unit Level Objective 1.6 | Draw a map and give directions to reach the college from Perambur bus-stand or railway station. (or) Draw a map and give directions to reach the Language Lab from our College Main Library. |
| | Teaching Aid 1.6 | Road Map and Audio Recording |

Module 2 - Ask for / Give Information

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|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| PO | | The objective of the program is to introduce significant literary works, representative of different ages, culture, and religion, and improve the language skills, analytical skills, and research aptitude of the students using various speaking and writing tasks. |
| CO | | The course objective is to develop the Spoken English of the students at undergraduate level. |
| LO | | The students will be able to listen to variety of conversations and respond actively, speak in different contexts using relevant sentence structures and key phrases, correct their pronunciation while speaking, and avoid the common errors while speaking and writing. |
| Module 2 | | Language Function - Ask for / Give Information |
| Bloom's Taxonomy | Module Level Objective | The objective of this module is to make the students ask for / give information. |
| Remember | Unit Level Objective 2.1 | Listen to the audio and identify 'question' words. |
| | Teaching Aid 2.1 | Audio |
| Comprehend | Unit Level Objective 2.2 | Listen to the audio and answer Wh-questions. |
| | Teaching Aid 2.2 | Audio |

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| Apply | Unit Level Objective 2.3 | Look at the picture. Apply the question words and key phrases to complete the questions. |
| | Teaching Aid 2.3 | Picture Activity |
| Analyse | Unit Level Objective 2.4 | Listen to the audio. Differentiate between right and wrong questions. |
| | Teaching Aid 2.4 | Audio |
| Evaluate | Unit Level Objective 2.5 | Listen to the video. Evaluate whether the girl/boy asks for and gives information correctly. |
| | Teaching Aid 2.5 | Video |
| Create | Unit Level Objective 2.6 | Look at the restaurant menu card OR railway reservation chart. Develop a conversation with 5 questions and 5 answers. |
| | Teaching Aid 2.6 | Audio Recording |

Module 3 - Suggestions & Advice

| | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| PO | | The objective of the program is to introduce significant literary works, representative of different ages, culture, and religion, and improve the language skills, analytical skills, and research aptitude of the students using various speaking and writing tasks. |
| CO | | The course objective is to develop the Spoken English of the students at undergraduate level. |
| LO | | The students will be able to listen to variety of conversations and respond actively, speak in different contexts using relevant sentence structures and key phrases, correct their pronunciation while speaking, and avoid the common errors while speaking and writing. |
| Module 3 | | Language Function - Ask for / Give Suggestions & Advice |
| Bloom's Taxonomy | Module Level Objective | The objective of this module is to make the students ask for / give suggestions and advice. |
| Remember | Unit Level Objective 3.1 | Listen to the audio. Fill in the blanks with key phrases used to ask for / make suggestions. |
| | Teaching Aid 3.1 | Audio |
| Comprehend | Unit Level Objective 3.2 | Understand each picture and give suggestion / advice based on the scenario. |
| | Teaching Aid 3.2 | Picture |
| Apply | Unit Level | Understand the context and apply the relevant key phrases to |

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| | Objective 3.3 | give suggestions / advice. |
| | Teaching Aid 3.3 | Picture |
| Analyse | Unit Level Objective 3.4 | Listen to the audio. Distinguish between right and wrong key phrases used in asking for / giving suggestions. |
| | Teaching Aid 3.4 | Audio |
| Evaluate | Unit Level Objective 3.5 | Listen to the audio. Evaluate whether right key phrases are used to ask for / give suggestions. |
| | Teaching Aid 3.5 | Audio |
| Create | Unit Level Objective 3.6 | Choose any 5 scenarios from the picture and give suggestions / advice using right key phrases. |
| | Teaching Aid 3.6 | Audio Recording |

Module 4 - Compare and Contrast

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|-------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| PO | | The objective of the program is to introduce significant literary works, representative of different ages, culture, and religion, and improve the language skills, analytical skills, and research aptitude of the students using various speaking and writing tasks. |
| CO | | The course objective is to develop the Spoken English of the students at undergraduate level. |
| LO | | The students will be able to listen to variety of conversations and respond actively, speak in different contexts using relevant sentence structures and key phrases, correct their pronunciation while speaking, and avoid the common errors while speaking and writing. |
| Module 4 | | Language Function - Compare and Contrast |
| Bloom's Taxonomy | Module Level Objective | The objective of this module is to make the students do compare and contrast using key phrases. |
| Remember | Unit Level Objective 4.1 | Listen to the video and identify similarities and differences. |
| | Teaching Aid 4.1 | Video |
| Comprehend | Unit Level Objective 4.2 | Listen to the audio. Identify the key phrases for Compare and Contrast. |
| | Teaching Aid 4.2 | Audio |

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| Apply | Unit Level Objective 4.3 | Look at the picture. Apply the key phrases for Compare and Contrast. |
| | Teaching Aid 4.3 | Picture |
| Analyse | Unit Level Objective 4.4 | Look at the picture. Analyse the key phrases for Compare and Contrast. |
| | Teaching Aid 4.4 | Picture |
| Evaluate | Unit Level Objective 4.5 | Listen to the video. Evaluate whether 'Compare and Contrast' is done using right key phrases. |
| | Teaching Aid 4.5 | Video |
| Create | Unit Level Objective 4.6 | Choose any two pictures. Compare and contrast using right key phrases. Record your response and send it to your Edge-On Spoken English in-charge teacher. |
| | Teaching Aid 4.6 | Pictures |

Module 5 - Cause and Effect

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| Learning Outcomes (LO) | | The students will be able to listen to variety of conversations and respond actively, speak in different contexts using relevant sentence structures and key phrases, correct their pronunciation while speaking, and avoid the common errors while speaking and writing. |
| Module 5 | | Language Function - Cause and Effect |
| Bloom's Taxonomy | Module Level Objective | The objective of this module is to make the students show 'cause and effect' using key phrases. |
| Remember | Unit Level Objective 5.1 | Listen to the video and identify causes and effects. |
| | Teaching Aid 5.1 | Video |
| Comprehend | Unit Level Objective 5.2 | Listen to the audio. Identify the key phrases for Cause and Effect. |
| | Teaching Aid 5.2 | Audio |
| Apply | Unit Level Objective 5.3 | Look at the picture. Apply the key phrases for Cause and Effect. |
| | Teaching Aid 5.3 | Picture |
| Analyse | Unit Level Objective 5.4 | Look at the picture. Analyse the key phrases for Cause and Effect. |

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| | Teaching Aid 5.4 | Picture |
| Evaluate | Unit Level Objective 5.5 | Listen to the video. Evaluate whether 'Cause and Effect' is done using right key phrases. |
| | Teaching Aid 5.5 | Video |
| Create | Unit Level Objective 5.6 | Choose any one topic. Think about the 'Causes and Effects'. Record your response using right key phrases and send it to your Edge-On Spoken English in-charge teacher. |
| | Teaching Aid 5.6 | Pictures |

Module 6 - Evaluate Options

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|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| Program Objective (PO) | | The objective of the program is to introduce significant literary works, representative of different ages, culture, and religion, and improve the language skills, analytical skills, and research aptitude of the students using various speaking and writing tasks. |
| Course Objective (CO) | | The course objective is to develop the basic speaking skills of the students at undergraduate level. |
| Learning Outcomes (LO) | | The students will be able to listen to variety of conversations and respond actively, speak in different contexts using relevant sentence structures and key phrases, correct their pronunciation while speaking, and avoid the common errors while speaking and writing. |
| Module 6 | | Language Function - Evaluating Options |
| Bloom's Taxonomy | Module Level Objective | The objective of this module is to make the students 'evaluate options' using key phrases. |
| Remember | Unit Level Objective 6.1 | Look at Picture 6.1 and identify the 'dress evaluation' criteria. |
| | Teaching Aid 6.1 | Picture |
| Comprehend | Unit Level Objective 6.2 | Listen to Video 6.2. Check your understanding of 'course evaluation' by doing Quiz 6.2. |
| | Teaching Aid 6.2 | Video |
| Apply | Unit Level Objective 6.3 | Listen to Video 6.3. Apply the key phrases for 'job evaluation'. |
| | Teaching Aid 6.3 | Video |
| Analyse | Unit Level Objective 6.4 | Read each statement and analyse whether it belongs to 'evaluation criteria' or not. |
| | Teaching Aid 6.4 | Picture |
| Evaluate | Unit Level Objective 6.5 | Watch Video 6.5. Check whether the 'Evaluation Criteria' is right or wrong. |
| | Teaching Aid 6.5 | Video |

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| Create | Unit Level Objective 6.6 | Look at Picture 6.6. Choose any ONE set of pictures and ‘evaluate options’ using the right criteria. Record your response and send it to your Edge-On Spoken English teacher-incharge. |
| | Teaching Aid 6.6 | Pictures |

Module 7 - Telephone Conversation

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| Program Objective (PO) | | The objective of the program is to introduce significant literary works, representative of different ages, culture, and religion, and improve the language skills, analytical skills, and research aptitude of the students using various speaking and writing tasks. |
| Course Objective (CO) | | The course objective is to develop the basic speaking skills of the students at undergraduate level. |
| Learning Outcomes (LO) | | The students will be able to listen to variety of conversations and respond actively, speak in different contexts using relevant sentence structures and key phrases, correct their pronunciation while speaking, and avoid the common errors while speaking and writing. |
| Module 7 | | Language Function - Telephone Conversations |
| Bloom's Taxonomy | Module Level Objective | The objective of this module is to make the students develop telephone conversations effectively. |
| Remember | Unit Level Objective 7.1 | Listen to Video 7.1 and identify the phrases used in telephone conversations. |
| | Teaching Aid 7.1 | Video |
| Comprehend | Unit Level Objective 7.2 | Listen to Video 7.2 and check your understanding of telephone manners. |
| | Teaching Aid 7.2 | Video |
| Apply | Unit Level Objective 7.3 | Look at Picture 7.3. Apply the right key phrase in the telephone conversation. |
| | Teaching Aid 7.3 | Picture |
| Analyse | Unit Level Objective 7.4 | Read each statement and analyse whether the ‘key phrase’ is appropriate for the context in telephone conversation. |
| | Teaching Aid 7.4 | Dialogue |
| Evaluate | Unit Level Objective 7.5 | Watch Video 7.5 and evaluate the key phrases for telephonic conversation. |
| | Teaching Aid 7.5 | Video |

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| Create | Unit Level Objective 7.6 | Choose any ONE role card and develop a telephone conversation using the right key phrases. Record your response and send it to your Edge-On Spoken English teacher-incharge. |
| | Teaching Aid 7.6 | Role Cards |

Module 8 - English Sounds

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|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| Program Objective (PO) | | The objective of the program is to introduce significant literary works, representative of different ages, culture, and religion, and improve the language skills, analytical skills, and research aptitude of the students using various speaking and writing tasks. |
| Course Objective (CO) | | The course objective is to develop the basic speaking skills of the students at undergraduate level. |
| Learning Outcomes (LO) | | The students will be able to listen to variety of conversations and respond actively, speak in different contexts using relevant sentence structures and key phrases, correct their pronunciation while speaking, and avoid the common errors while speaking and writing. |
| Module 8 | | Language Function - English Sounds |
| Bloom's Taxonomy | Module Level Objective | The objective of this module is to make the students develop telephone conversations effectively. |
| Remember | Unit Level Objective 8.1 | Listen to Video 8.1 and identify the vowel and consonant sounds. |
| | Teaching Aid 8.1 | Video |
| Comprehend | Unit Level Objective 8.2 | Listen to the same video and check your understanding of English vowels and consonants. |
| | Teaching Aid 8.2 | Video |
| Apply | Unit Level Objective 8.3 | Apply the right vowel or consonant sounds in the given words. |
| | Teaching Aid 8.3 | Exercise |
| Analyse | Unit Level Objective 8.4 | Analyse whether the phonetic symbols for vowels and consonants are used appropriately in the given words. |
| | Teaching Aid 8.4 | Exercise |
| Evaluate | Unit Level Objective 8.5 | Listen to audio 8.5. Evaluate whether the vowel and consonant sounds are pronounced properly. |

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| | Teaching Aid 8.5 | Video |
| Create | Unit Level Objective 8.6 | Try pronouncing the given words. Record your response and send it to your Edge-On Spoken English teacher-incharge. |
| | Teaching Aid 8.6 | Oral Activity |

Module 9 - Speaking Vocabulary

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| Program Objective (PO) | | The objective of the program is to introduce significant literary works, representative of different ages, culture, and religion, and improve the language skills, analytical skills, and research aptitude of the students using various speaking and writing tasks. |
| Course Objective (CO) | | The course objective is to develop the basic speaking skills of the students at undergraduate level. |
| Learning Outcomes (LO) | | The students will be able to listen to variety of conversations and respond actively, speak in different contexts using relevant sentence structures and key phrases, correct their pronunciation while speaking, and avoid the common errors while speaking and writing. |
| Module 9 | | Language Function - Speaking Vocabulary |
| Bloom's Taxonomy | Module Level Objective | The objective of this module is to help the students improve their speaking vocabulary. |
| Remember | Unit Level Objective 9.1 | Identify new vocabulary in the 'video song' and fill in the blanks. |
| | Teaching Aid 9.1 | Video Song |
| Comprehend | Unit Level Objective 9.2 | Understand the importance of 'vocabulary' in developing speaking skills |
| | Teaching Aid 9.2 | Video |
| Apply | Unit Level Objective 9.3 | Apply 'context clues' to find the meanings of new words in the 'animated story'. |
| | Teaching Aid 9.3 | Animated Story |
| Analyse | Unit Level Objective 9.4 | Analyse whether the vocabulary used is right or wrong using 'pictures'. |
| | Teaching Aid 9.4 | Picture Activity |
| Evaluate | Unit Level Objective 9.5 | Evaluate the use of 'subtitles' in developing vocabulary using videos. |

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| | Teaching Aid 9.5 | Video |
| Create | Unit Level Objective 9.6 | Use the Visual Dictionary online. https://visuwords.com/education Find 'new vocabulary' for the given words. Read and record all the words (with their meanings) and send the recording to your Edge-On Spoken English teacher-incharge. |
| | Teaching Aid 9.6 | Visual Dictionary / Speaking Activity |

Module 10 - Speaking Fluently with Confidence

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|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| Program Objective (PO) | | The objective of the program is to introduce significant literary works, representative of different ages, culture, and religion, and improve the language skills, analytical skills, and research aptitude of the students using various speaking and writing tasks. |
| Course Objective (CO) | | The course objective is to develop the basic speaking skills of the students at undergraduate level. |
| Learning Outcomes (LO) | | The students will be able to listen to variety of conversations and respond actively, speak in different contexts using relevant sentence structures and key phrases, correct their pronunciation while speaking, and avoid the common errors while speaking and writing. |
| Module 10 | | Language Function - Speaking Fluently with Confidence |
| Bloom's Taxonomy | Module Level Objective | The objective of this module is to help the students speak with confidence. |
| Remember | Unit Level Objective 10.1 | Identify the difficulties faced by English learners from different countries. |
| | Teaching Aid 10.1 | Video |
| Comprehend | Unit Level Objective 10.2 | Unit 10.2 (a) - Listen to Video 10.2 (a) and identify the errors in speaking. Unit 10.2 (b) - Listen to Video 10.2 (b). Understand the importance of 'errors' in developing your speaking skills. |
| | Teaching Aid 10.2 | Videos |
| Apply | Unit Level Objective 10.3 | Apply your logic and find why 'practice' is more important in developing your speaking skills. |
| | Teaching Aid 10.3 | Video |
| Analyse | Unit Level Objective 10.4 | Analyse whether fluency can be developed by regular speaking practice. |
| | Teaching Aid 10.4 | Video |
| Evaluate | Unit Level Objective 10.5 | Evaluate the ways in which you can start Speaking with Confidence. |
| | Teaching Aid 10.5 | Video |

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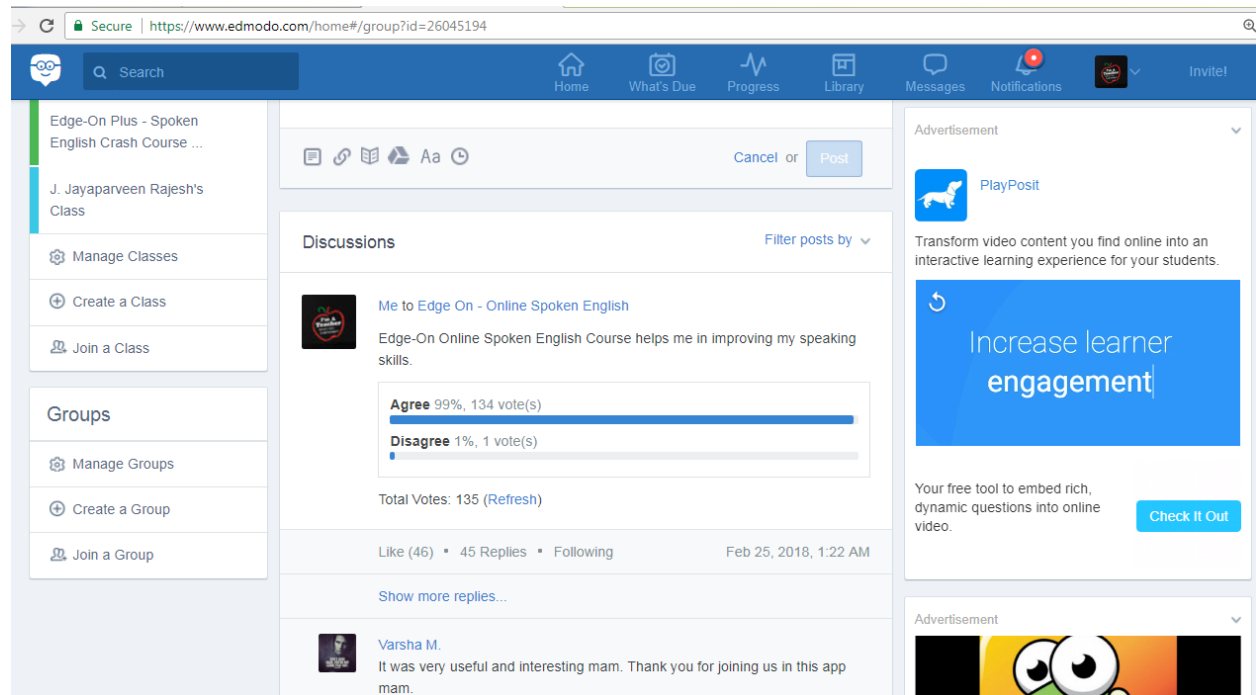
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| Create | Unit Level Objective 10.6 | Prepare a ‘working plan’ for how to make your ‘speaking practice’ regular and interesting. List out your speaking activities and fix time schedule for each activity. Record your response and send it to your Edge-On Spoken English Course in-charge teacher. |
| | Teaching Aid 10.6 | Speaking Activity |

Attainment of Learner Outcomes

623 (out of 771) students of CTTE College for Women, Chennai, enrolled for *Edge On* Online Spoken English course. 141 of them completed the course with high credit scores and received Special Certificates. 142 of them received Course Completion Certificates.

Student Feedback



‘Student Poll’ is launched in the Edmodo app. 134 out of 135 students have answered positively to it showing that 99% of the student participants find Edge-On Online Spoken English Course useful to them in developing their listening and speaking skills.

Most of the students have found the innovative and creative Online Spoken English Course *Edge On* (designed by J. Jaya Parveen and V. Rajesh) based on Outcome Based Education (OBE) Bloom’s Taxonomy Model using the LMS *Edmodo* very interesting, effective, and useful.

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