

## THE ROLE OF MOTIVATION IN LEARNING EFL SECONDARY LEVEL

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#### 1. Introduction

#### 2. The role of motivation in the EFL classroom

The first step in tackling the problem of motivation is that the teachers need to understand and appreciate the role and importance of motivation in any learning.

In second language learning as in every other field of human learning, motivation is the critical force which determines whether a learner embarks on a task at all, how much energy he devotes to it, and how long he perseveres. It is a complex phenomenon and includes many components: the individual's drive, need for achievement and success, curiosity, desire for stimulation and new experience, and so on. These factors play a role in every kind of learning situation.

#### 3. Sources of motivation

Educational psychologists point to three major sources of motivation in learning:

The learner's natural interest: intrinsic satisfaction

The teacher/institution/employment: extrinsic reward

Success in the task: combining satisfaction and reward

In general, explanations regarding the source(s) of motivation can be categorized as either extrinsic (outside the person) or intrinsic (internal to the person). Intrinsic sources and corresponding theories can be further subcategorized as either body/physical, mind/mental (i.e., cognitive, affective, conative) or transpersonal/spiritual.

Note: Conation = inclination to act purposefully; impulse. (Webster's)

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