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6 **Abstract**

7 A widespread dissatisfaction with the conventional concept of method has led to the
8 development of a new concept named post-method pedagogy. The proponents of this concept
9 argue for formulating a new style of classroom practices for teaching English as a foreign or a
10 second language based on contextual realities and teachers' experiences and knowledge. As to
11 ELT in Bangladesh, there is a necessity to reconstruct the present ELT practices since CLT,
12 which is now being followed as an approach to second/foreign language teaching, has failed to
13 produce expected result. For the purpose of constructing an effective pedagogy for ELT in
14 Bangladesh, there is a scope to utilize the concept of post-method pedagogy. In the present
15 article, attempts have been made to explore the various features of this concept to determine
16 which of them are practical for the context of Bangladesh and, therefore, significant for ELT
17 practices in the country.

18

19 **Index terms**— post-method pedagogy, methods and approaches, communicative language teaching, learning
20 to communicate, communicating to learn, contextual realities,

21 **1 Introduction**

22 The emergence of the -concept of post-method pedagogy is related to the dissatisfaction with the methods
23 and approaches that have so far emerged in the foreign and second language teaching domain over the last
24 century. This concept began to take a shape from the mid-nineties of the last century as the existing methods
25 and approaches, specially the CLT, failed to come abreast with the hopes and expectations with respect to
26 second/foreign language teaching. None of the existing methods and approaches proved sound and perfect, and
27 therefore, could produce expected results irrespective of language teaching contexts. Even CLT that came into
28 being in the 1970s with a big bang in the backdrop of the failure of the Audiolingual Method and the popularity
29 of which spread all over the world failed to prove effective in many contexts, specially in the main stream of
30 education of Afro-Asian countries. Soon after its introduction in these countries, people concerned with teaching
31 English as a second or foreign language began to complain against many principles of this approach, putting
32 the efficacy of this approach into question, which ultimately led to the emergence of the concept of post-method
33 pedagogy.

34 **2 II.**35 **3 The Concept of Post-Method Pedagogy**

36 A method is generally understood as a package of guidelines about how language teaching should be done.
37 According to Richards and Rodgers (2001, p. 245), it refers to "a specific instructional design or system based
38 on a particular theory of language and of language learning". It embodies some assumptions about language and
39 language learning, and accordingly provides some guidelines about the role and nature of instructional materials,
40 roles of learners and teachers, mode of classroom instructions, tasks and activities to be practised and so on.
41 That is, a method on the basis of some assumptions or theories about language and learning dictates different
42 aspects of language teaching/learning practices. Defining a method Nunan (2003, p. 5) says, "A language teaching

43 method is a single set procedures which teachers are to follow in the classroom. Methods are usually based on a
44 set of beliefs about the nature of language and learning”.

45 In contrast to the idea of a method, the concept of the post-method pedagogy asserts that none of the
46 conventional methods or approaches is complete or absolute individually for second/foreign language teaching.
47 Therefore, there is no need for the wholesale adoption of any method for the purpose of language teaching.
48 Rejecting the exclusive use of a method, the proponents of the post-method pedagogy argue that language
49 teaching or learning is a complex process and is subject to various factors such as participants, contexts, time,
50 purpose, etc. Therefore, “The notion that In Bangladesh CLT was introduced in the midnineties of the last
51 century, and since then it has been being used for teaching English as a foreign language in the country. But the
52 introduction of CLT has been the cause of deterioration of the quality of English education in the country, instead
53 of being the cause of improvement. Therefore, the present state of ELT practices in the country necessitates a
54 rethinking. In such a backdrop, the concept of post-method pedagogy can be properly utilized for reconstructing
55 the paradigm of the ELT practices in the country. The present article has attempted to discuss firstly what we
56 know about the concept of the post-method pedagogy and then how some points of this concept can be utilized
57 for the purpose of developing an appropriate methodology for ELT in the country. one method can be appropriate
58 for every teacher and every learner in every time and every place is absurd absurd when one considers the myriad
59 factors that comprise a given language classroom” ??Cattell 2009, p. 59). Instead of relying on any existing
60 method, they suggest the language teachers to construct their own methods on the basis of the local contextual
61 variables. While in case of the existing methods it was the theorizers who devised theories and developed methods
62 based on them, in case of the post-method pedagogy it is the teachers who are to formulate their own methods or
63 theories of practice based on local contexts and their own experiences in classroom teaching. Distinguishing the
64 concept of post-method from that of method, ??umaravadivelu (1994, p. 29) says, while the concept of method
65 involves theorizers constructing “knowledge-oriented” theories of pedagogy, post-method involves practitioners
66 constructing “classroom-oriented” theories of practice. Therefore, when generalization and centredness are the
67 criterion of a method, individuality, practicality and localness are the key points of the concept of post-method.

68 The term ‘post-method’ was first coined by Pennycook (1989) and then was taken up by others, including
69 Prabhu (1990), Alright (1991), Stern (1992) and Kumaravadivelu (1994Kumaravadivelu (, 1999Kumaravadivelu
70 (, 2001Kumaravadivelu (, 2006)). Though the main thrust in the post-method concept is to develop a new set of
71 strategies and procedures for language teaching, it does not advocate for complete abandonment of the existing
72 methods. Instead, it endorses any attempt on the part of the teachers to modify and adjust an established
73 method to the realities of their local contexts, thus recreating them as their own ??Richards and Rodgers 2001,
74 p.251). By drawing on a number of methods, teachers can develop an eclectic method harmonious with the local
75 contextual variables. In this regard Cattell (2009, p. 59) says, “One way to overcome the limitations of the
76 methods paradigm would be to simply allow teachers to choose from a variety of methods”.

77 As the key points of the concept of the postmethod pedagogy Kumaravadivelu (2001, p. 538) has suggested
78 three parameters-particularity, practicality and possibility. By the parameter of particularity, he argues that
79 language teaching practices should be sensitive to “a particular group of teachers teaching a particular group
80 of learners pursuing a particular set of goals within a particular institutional context embedded in a particular
81 sociocultural milieu” (p. 538). That is, post-method pedagogy has to be sensitive to the context where language
82 teaching will take place, taking into consideration the teachers, the learners, and the institutional and sociocultural
83 factors of a context. By the parameter of practicality, Kumaravadivelu (2001, p. 541) points out that there
84 should be a harmony between what the teachers of a particular context will theorize and what they will practise
85 in classroom teaching. According to him, a theory is meaningless unless it can be applied in practice. Therefore,
86 teachers themselves should try to derive their own theories from their language teaching practices on the basis
87 of their understanding of the problems they face while teaching in their contexts. By his third parameter of
88 possibility, he (2001, p. 543) states that second language teaching and learning should be seen not only as
89 learners’ grasping new linguistic and cultural knowledge, but also as a tool to help them to come to grips with
90 their own identity. That is, language education has to provide “its participants with challenges and opportunities
91 for a continual quest for subjectivity and self-identity”, and also for connecting their linguistic needs to their
92 social needs.

93 The concept of post-method pedagogy considers teachers and learners as very significant because it is they
94 who are to play the central role in a language teaching programme. Teachers are to shoulder the responsibilities
95 of devising their own theories from their constant practical experiences, and then of applying those theories
96 into practice. However, to do their job properly they are expected to be knowledgeable and skillful, and should
97 have adequate amount of information about both the theoretical and practical aspects of language teaching
98 and learning. That is, in this pedagogy they, as ??umaravadivelu (2006, p. 173) has argued, need to “develop
99 the knowledge and skill, attitude, and autonomy necessary to construct their own context-sensitive theory of
100 practice”. As to learners, they need to be not the mere recipients of knowledge, but actively take part in
101 pedagogic decisionmaking to promote the idea of learner autonomy.

102 4 III.

103 The Present Scenerio of in Bangladesh English language teaching-learning practices in Bangladesh are still
104 revolving round the conventional concept of a method. That is, Bangladesh like many other countries of the world

105 is still suffering from the CLT phobia and, therefore, has not been able to come out of the method paradigm.
106 Before the introduction of CLT, it was the Grammar-Translation Method that was traditionally followed for
107 teaching English in the country. As with other methods, dissatisfaction was also with this method, especially
108 for its failure to impart communicative competence to learners. Therefore, the switch over from this method to
109 the CLT approach was made on the expectation that this change would improve the quality of English teaching
110 and learning in the country as a whole. Thereupon, new textbooks compatible with the principles of CLT were
111 written for the students of the primary to the higher secondary levels of education, and training on this new
112 approach was given to the English teachers so that they could properly apply the principles of this approach to
113 the classroom teaching. But in spite of all these efforts, the desired result is yet a far cry. Even after fourteen
114 years of the introduction of CLT in the country the quality of English G ELT education here has not improved at
115 all. A number of studies/investigations done on the application of CLT for teaching English in Bangladesh report
116 that the quality of English education has alarmingly deteriorated after the introduction of CLT. According to the
117 report of a baseline study done by English in Action (EIA) project in 2008-09, a significant number of students
118 even after many years of schooling have not progressed beyond initial level of competence in spoken English (p.
119 26). In the report, it is also mentioned that the overall competence in spoken English of the teachers, learners
120 and community adults of the country is very frustrating (p. 14).

121 Neither the teachers nor the learners of Bangladesh are enthusiastic to follow the principles of CLT. In teacher
122 training programmes, seminars, workshops, textbooks, etc., ELT teachers are advised to apply the principles of
123 CLT in the classroom, but in actual practices there is no reflection of this instruction or advice. ??slam (2011,
124 p. 384), in a study on the practice of CLT in the country, finds that teachers here are very reluctant to promote
125 the ideals of CLT and therefore avoid its application. The new English textbooks based on the principles of CLT
126 contain a lot of communicative tasks and activities in the forms of pair work, group work, role-play, etc., but the
127 learners do not practise them in classrooms. What they do in the classroom is nothing more than translating
128 the reading texts available in these textbooks into Bangla. In addition to this, what they care most is practising
129 the answers to the model questions from notebooks or guidebooks to prepare themselves for examinations. The
130 teachers on their part do not teach by following the lesson-plans of the textbooks. Instead, they are mainly
131 seen using 'Bangla translations to explain the meaning of the text' (Haider and Chowdhury 2012) or helping the
132 learners solve the model questions of the guidebooks. Obviously, one kind of chaotic situation is prevailing in the
133 name of CLT in the present scenario of English language teaching and learning in the country.

134 5 IV.

135 Using the Concept of the Post-Method Pedagogy for in Bangladesh

136 The above picture of the present circumstances of ELT in Bangladesh asserts that the country badly needs
137 to reconstruct the existing teaching-learning practices for ELT. To make the present practices effective, there
138 is no alternative to making them compatible with the contextual realities of the country and thus developing a
139 method or pedagogy of the country's own. In this respect, the concept of the three parameters of the post-method
140 pedagogy-particularity, practicality and possibility-as proposed by Kumaravadivelu (2001) may come to a great
141 help. The methodology or pedagogy to be developed particularly for Bangladesh can be based on the key ideas
142 of this concept, that is, on particularity, practicality and possibility. However, at the same time, it is essential to
143 be cautious about some other points of this concept as they are not applicable in the context of Bangladesh. In
144 other words, only the points which are practical, and hence, applicable in Bangladeshi context can be utilized.

145 6 a) Using the Parameter of Particularity

146 As it has been mentioned earlier, the concept of particularity argues for making language teaching practices
147 context-sensitive so that they do not conflict with the local variables. Every context has its own peculiarities,
148 and therefore, needs to be considered separately while constructing pedagogy for that context otherwise language
149 teaching will not be effective and practical. As to Bangladesh, it can be said that she has her own contextual
150 peculiarities, which are different from those of many other countries of the world. The need for English language,
151 the cultural profiles of the teachers and the learners, the skills of the teachers in the target language, the
152 situational strengths and weaknesses, etc., of Bangladesh are different in nature and quality from those of many
153 other countries. Obviously, the methodology to be developed for ELT in Bangladesh has to be corresponding to
154 these peculiarities as per the concept of particularity.

155 CLT has failed to work in the context of Bangladesh mainly because the parameter of particularity has been
156 ignored. The teaching-learning practices which CLT embodies match with the cultural and situational realities of
157 its origin countries, the countries which Holliday (1994) has referred to as BANA countries (Britain, Australia and
158 North America), but mismatch with those of Bangladesh. That is why, the teachers and learners of the country
159 do not feel any cultural affinity with the teaching-learning practices assigned by CLT. The roles it assigns to
160 teachers and learners, the learning items it suggests, the types of tasks and activities it advocates, the skills it
161 prioritizes, the patterns of interactions it recommends, the procedures it claims, etc., do not properly match with
162 the beliefs, the styles, the preferences, the experiences and the values of the teachers and learners of this country
163 which are deeply rooted in its culture.

7 B) USING THE PARAMETER OF PRACTICALITY

164 Due to their cultural orientation in family, educational institutes and wider society, the learners of Bangladesh
165 like to depend on teachers for their learning rather than pursuing autonomous and discovery-oriented learning
166 or pursuing the strategies of peer-correction and peer-learning as suggested by CLT. To learn grammatical rules
167 explicitly, they like to get them explained by their teachers. On the part of the teachers, they like to control
168 the classroom activities to have an authority over learners, instead of merely monitoring or facilitating those
169 activities as suggested by the ideology of ELT of CLT. Teachers here are like guardians and "asking too many
170 questions to and entering into a debate or argument with the teachers is a sign of disrespect and teachers hardly
171 appreciate it" (Islam 2000).

172 The same cultural orientation inculcates in the beliefs of the teachers and learners that knowledge is 'a
173 monolithic entity' which needs to be transmitted to learners by teachers, that learning is something to be pursued
174 in a systematic way and to be memorized, that a textbook is an embodiment of knowledge and is, therefore, sacred
175 and so on. About the beliefs of the people of Bangladesh, Rahman (1999) says, "knowledge is seen as monolithic
176 entity, a finite, inflexible 'object', to be accepted whole and to be memorized and regurgitated." Therefore, the
177 reluctance of the teachers and learners of Bangladesh to follow the instructions of the present English textbooks
178 should be sought in their cultural profiles. Besides, the situational variables such as class-size, duration of class,
179 infrastructural realities, availabilities of teaching-learning aids, efficiency of teachers, etc. do not support the
180 principles of CLT.

181 The cultural phenomena of Bangladesh assert that the teachers here have to remain at the centre of the
182 classroom, control all the classroom activities and also take the responsibilities of the learners for their learning,
183 especially at the primary and secondary levels of education. It is the teachers who need to introduce the
184 required interactions in the classroom and to ensure the learners' practice of using English. Commenting on the
185 appropriate classroom practices in Bangladesh, Shahidullah (1999) says that individual works under teachers'
186 control will prove more useful here than group and pair works. Besides, he suggests that interactions with texts,
187 free discussions in whole class sessions, seminars, tutorial discussions, etc., can also be utilized more meaningfully
188 and effectively in the country. Therefore, while determining the features of the teaching-learning practices for
189 ELT in Bangladesh all these points of distinctness of the culture and situation of Bangladesh have to be taken
190 into account.

191 7 b) Using the Parameter of Practicality

192 The parameter of practicality according to the concept of post-method pedagogy claims that any theory to be
193 chosen for any pedagogy must have the quality to be applied into practice (Kumaravadiyalu 2001). That is,
194 the appropriate pedagogy for a particular language teaching context will be the one that will be based on such
195 a theory or theories as can be translated into reality. CLT in Bangladesh is lacking this essential quality of
196 practicality, and it can unmistakably be understood if the learning theory underlying this approach is analyzed
197 in relation to the context of the country.

198 The learning theory of CLT advocates that any language can be learnt best through communication as it is
199 done in case of a child's learning its mother language. In other words, the process of second or foreign language
200 learning should be similar to the way a child acquires its mother tongue. Krashen (1982) has termed this process
201 of language learning as natural approach in which there is no need to learn explicit grammar. While involved in
202 communication in the target language, learners can pick up the elements of the language implicitly without being
203 conscious of the grammatical rules. But the success of this natural approach to language learning mainly depends
204 on learners' opportunity for getting exposure to the target language both inside and outside the classroom. If
205 learners in this approach do not get exposure to the target language in the way a child gets it to its mother
206 language, this approach does not prove effective. It is found that learners' exposure to the target language is
207 generally ensured in an environment where the target language is widely/extensively used as a medium of daily
208 communications and where the target language is used as a medium of instructions in the classroom. Generally,
209 the society where the target language is used as a second language or a first language can provide learners with
210 such an ideal environment.

211 But the context of Bangladesh is quite different from such an ideal environment since English is treated here
212 as a foreign language and seldom used for daily communications in the society. Bangladesh being a monolingual
213 country, English is not required to be used as a link language for daily communications in the way it is used in
214 many countries like India where people of different language communities live together. Besides, its status being
215 a foreign language, its official use is restricted. Therefore, the learners here do not get any exposure to English
216 outside the classrooms. In the classrooms too, they do not get any remarkable exposure to it as the medium
217 of instructions in the country is not English. English is spoken here only in English classes and that too is not
218 done properly since teachers here at the lower levels of education are not skilled enough to speak it competently
219 and continuously in the classroom. In a study on some secondary schools of Bangladesh Haider and Chowdhury
220 (2012) found that a very small portion of the English language teachers here can use English thoroughly in the
221 classroom. In such an environment, the theories of CLT appear to be absurd since they are not applicable.

222 Therefore, there is no denying that the theory of CLT which underpins the present teaching-learning practices
223 in Bangladesh should be given up, and in its place the theory which is applicable in her context has to be
224 adopted. Therefore, in a context like Bangladesh, the main approach to learning English should not be through
225 communication, but through learning its system. English as a language is a system consisted of so many rules and

226 structures, and what is practical and logical for the learners of the country is to learn these rules and G structures
227 in their attempt to learn it. According to ??cDonough and Shaw (1993, p. 35), a more grammar-oriented syllabus
228 is to be preferred in a context where English is a foreign language and where learners have very little scope for
229 exposure to it. However, to cope with their communicative needs in English in practical life, the learners of
230 Bangladesh also need to get involved in the practice of communication in it. Therefore, considering both the
231 points-to learn English as a system as well as to learn how to communicate in it-the trend of English language
232 learning in the country has to be 'learning to communicate', instead of 'communicating to learn.' The 'learning
233 to communicate'-approach attempts to help learners master the knowledge of the system of English, on the one
234 hand, and the ability to use it for practical communication purposes, on the other hand. Waters (2012), through
235 an investigation into the trends in methods, has found that though at the theoretical level 'communicating
236 to learn' approach still persists in the ELT domain, at the practice level 'learning to communicate' approach
237 is growing stronger day by day. To identify the cause of this gap between theorizing and actual practice, he
238 refers to an argument of Ur (2011) which she has made in one of her articles with respect to the teaching of
239 grammar. In the article Ur (ibid, p. 518 cited in Waters 2012) argues that the actual practice of second language
240 teaching not only involves SLA theories but also many other practical things including learners' socio-cultural
241 background, and that these practical features often exercise more influence on classroom teaching than the SLA
242 theories. After a classroom-based research conducted over the last 15 years, Lightbown and Spada (2006, p. 176
243 cited in Waters 2012) comment that the form-focused instruction and corrective feedback within the context of
244 communicative and content-based programmes will be more effective than the programmes limited to a virtually
245 exclusive emphasis on comprehension, fluency or accuracy alone.

246 The psychological dispositions of the teachers and learners of Bangladesh also correspond to the demand of
247 the practical situation of the country with respect to English language teaching and learning. In an empirical
248 study, ??uda (2004, p. 123, 126) finds that the learners in Bangladesh prefer to learn English by learning
249 its grammatical rules in the one hand, and also believe in the requirement of getting involved in the practice
250 of using it for communicative purposes. The teachers too like to teach grammatical rules and believe in the
251 necessity of engaging their learners in the practice of using English. Therefore, the learning theory for ELT in
252 the country has to accommodate both these aspects of language teaching. Any attempt to teach English only
253 through communication, without teaching its grammatical rules or system will prove futile.

254 8 c) Using the Parameter of Possibility

255 Like the parameters of particularity and practicality, the parameter of possibility is also very much important for
256 ELT in Bangladesh. Bangladesh is an independent country with her own population, history, culture, language,
257 literature, geography, vision and so on. But at the same time she is a member of the United Nations and many
258 other international organizations. That is, she has different kinds of needs for using English both at national
259 and international levels. Obviously, ELT in the country has to provide the learners with the opportunities for
260 recreating their identities both from local and global perspectives as per the concept of possibility. To put it in
261 other words, the ELT methodology that has to be developed for this context must promote learners' opportunities
262 to explore their new identities based on their relationships with both localness and globalness. On the one hand,
263 the methodology should enable the learners to know how to promote their own culture, literature, history,
264 language, etc. at the international arena with the help of their new linguistic capability; on the other hand,
265 it should also enable them to be conscious of the cultures, life-styles and perspectives of the people of other
266 countries and thereby rebuild their own identities with this new consciousness. Obviously, with these views in
267 end, the English textbooks of the country have to include remarkable amount of literary texts, along with other
268 kinds of texts, embedded both in the local and foreign cultures, with priority to the local cultures. Commenting
269 on the usefulness of local literary texts over native speaker ones, Alam (2007, p. 381) says, "Such texts allow
270 students to engage with material issuing from the world around them and help learners develop their confidence
271 in their ability to use the language and to write back through it."

272 But the present English textbooks of the country at the primary, secondary and higher secondary levels
273 include neither local nor foreign literary texts. With some exceptions, they include only non-literary texts, and
274 the quantity of these texts too is not sufficient for requirements, especially for reading purposes. The necessity
275 of extensive reading texts cannot be undermined for learning a language. According to ??lam (2007, p. 383),
276 "Students should always read more rather than less if they are going to learn a language." d) Looking Critically
277 at Some Points of the Concept of Post-Method Pedagogy Though many of the points of the concept of the
278 post-method pedagogy are applicable to ELT in the context of Bangladesh, some other points of it are not
279 practical, and therefore, not appropriate for this context. It is seen that in this concept an enormous volume of
280 responsibilities has been imposed on the shoulders of teachers, asking them "to theorize from their practice and
281 practice what they theorize" (Kumaravadivelu 1999).

282 9 G

283 To do their job properly, they need to "understand and identify problems, analyze and assess information,
284 consider and evaluate alternatives, and then choose the best available alternative that is then subjected to
285 further critical evaluation" ??Kumaravadivelu 2006, p. 173). That is, every individual teacher needs to devise

286 his/her pedagogical principles and then develop his/her own materials for teaching purposes. To put it in other
287 words, he or she has to determine his/her own repertoire of the most effective strategies and techniques for
288 classroom teaching through the exercise of his/her autonomy and individuality in his/her job. But to do all these
289 activities or to carry out all these responsibilities on the part of the teachers of this country is neither practical
290 nor possible due to various kinds of contextual as well as their personal limitations.

291 In Bangladesh the ELT teachers at the primary and secondary levels of education, as it has been mentioned
292 earlier, are not equally competent and qualified, and therefore, unable to develop their own teaching materials or
293 to develop their own sets of strategies and techniques through constant research. Making a comment on the ability
294 of language teachers all over the world, Khatib and Fat'hi (2012) say, "Not every single teacher is competent
295 and confident enough to be autonomous and draw upon his/her 'sense of plausibility.'" The ELT teachers in
296 Bangladesh have their own limitations in terms of their time, energy, opportunity, resources, quality to shoulder
297 the enormous. In addition to the qualificational and personal constraints of the teachers, there are also various
298 kinds of contextual constraints in Bangladesh, which create impediments in the way of teachers' developing
299 the pedagogy of their own. The teachers here need to operate within the tight administrative and financial
300 frameworks at their educational institutes. They have to teach in accordance with the prescribed syllabuses,
301 textbooks and time schedule, and enjoy little freedom to go beyond these restrictions. The syllabuses and the
302 textbooks they are required to follow provide them with the specific work-plans and guidelines regarding what
303 to teach, how to teach and also how long to teach in the classroom. They have no space at their educational
304 institutes to avoid these work-plans and guidelines, and therefore, cannot pursue their own autonomous plans.
305 They have also obligation to prepare students for examinations, which intensely compels them to act up to the
306 demand of the question-papers. Besides, the lack of teaching-learning aids, lack of library resources, shortage of
307 teachers, large class-size, financial crisis and other situational realities of Bangladesh pose problems for them to
308 act freely to construct their own method or pedagogy.

309 The massive roles that teachers need to play in the post-method pedagogy are impractical not only for the
310 teachers of Bangladesh, but also for the average teachers of any context. A teacher's empowerment and autonomy
311 have been emphasized in this concept, but in practice "the teacher is not given much elbowroom to perform freely
312 and to make his or her decision" (Khatib and Fat'hi 2012). Expressing the similar views, Akbari (2008) says that
313 the post-method pedagogy has neglected the social as well as the professional limitations which teachers confront
314 in their day-to-day negotiation of their identities and practice.

315 To comment on the appropriateness of the post-method pedagogy in the context of Bangladesh, it can be
316 said that though the parameters of particularity, practicality and possibility of the post-method pedagogy sound
317 good and hence can be utilized for ELT practices in the country, it is not the teachers of the country, especially
318 those at the primary and secondary levels, who are the right persons to 'theorize from their practice' or to 'be
319 engaged in constant research' as Kumaravadivelu (2001) has suggested. Rather it is better to assign this lead to
320 the researchers or ELT experts or some selective and qualified teachers of higher education who are capable of
321 doing meaningful research. While doing this research, they need to go deep into the socio-cultural features and
322 also the situational realities of this country. They need to investigate into the beliefs, experiences, expectations
323 and preferences of the teachers and the learners of this country because all these issues are deeply rooted into the
324 culture of this country. Besides, they also need to seek the views and opinions of other concerned stakeholders
325 to base the teaching-learning practices on the practical, effective and pragmatic principles and norms.

326 On the part of the teachers what they are required to do is to co-operate the researchers and share with
327 them their experience, preferences and beliefs about language teaching and learning so that those can be taken
328 into account properly. In other words, teacher's role in the context of Bangladesh will be that of a mediator.
329 ??iddowson (1990, p. 22) expresses a similar view when he says, "it is teachers who have to act as mediators
330 between theory and practice, between the domain of disciplinary research and pedagogy."

331 As to the idea of learner autonomy, as advocated by the concept of post-method pedagogy, it creates a complete
332 mismatch with the cultural profiles of the learners of Bangladesh. In an empirical study on the teaching-learning
333 culture of Bangladesh, ??hahidullah (1997, p. 124, 185 & 200) finds that the learners of Bangladesh want to
334 learn under the guidance of their responsibilities assigned to them by the concept of post-method pedagogy. They
335 have high workload as well as financial and occupational constraints, and are too busy to devote adequate time
336 and energy to make their experiments on teaching practices in the fashion of, as Kumaravadivalu (2001, p. 539)
337 suggests, 'trying them teachers. The teachers too believe that learners learn g best when they learn under their
338 control. Therefore, learner-autonomy or learner-centredness, though forwarded by the concept of post-method
339 pedagogy, has to be avoided in the context of the country.

340 V.

341 10 Conclusion

342 The introduction of CLT as an approach to English language teaching in Bangladesh has failed to produce any
343 positive result. The main cause of this failure should be searched in the mismatch between the principles of
344 CLT and the contextual realities of the country. The context of Bangladesh has its own peculiarities in terms
345 of cultural and situational variables, which claims a specific kind of teaching-learning practices for ELT in the
346 country. Therefore, it is essential to reconstruct the ELT teaching methodology of the country with a view to
347 making it effective, taking the local contextual features into account. In this regard, there is much scope to utilize

348 the concept of the post-method pedagogy, the concept which has emerged in the backdrop of the failure of all the
349 established methods and approaches. However, at the same time it should be kept in mind that the wholesale
350 application of this concept will not bring any fruitful result as some of its suggestions are not applicable in the
context of the country. ^{1 2}



Figure 1:

351

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²2 9

- 352 [an Assessment of Spoken English Competence among School Students, Teachers and Adults in Bangladesh ()]
353 *an Assessment of Spoken English Competence among School Students, Teachers and Adults in Bangladesh,*
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