APPENDIX 6

Modified questionnaire after second pilot study.

Dear Student

I teach English to I BE at Sri Venkateswara College of Engineering, Sriperumbudur, Chennai 602 105. I am doing Ph.D at Anna University, Chennai. I intend to design a common syllabus for I year students of Engineering in Tamilnadu.
I also wish to know the problems you encounter in listening, speaking, reading and writing in English.
You can be frank in your comments and suggestions. These will be of great help in framing a suitable syllabus for future students of engineering, like you.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely

T.Ravindran

A questionnaire to I B.E students

Name: (optional)
Year:
College:
University:
Mother tongue: (tick your choices)

Place of schooling: city ______
                          Town ______
                          Village (rural quota) ______

Medium of instruction in school: mother tongue ______
                          English ______

Category: OC / BC / MBC / SC / ST

Language Skills

Problems
1. I need to listen and understand
   a) classroom lectures ______
   b) conversation with classmates ______

2. I have no difficulty in doing this
   yes ______
   no ______

3. It is difficult for me to follow the
   a) lectures (content) ______
   b) language (medium) ______
   c) speed (quickness) ______

4. Because I don’t have sufficient
   a) subject knowledge ______
### Speaking

5. I need to speak to
   - a) ask questions
   - b) clear doubts with classmates
   - c) practice in listening to English

6. I have no difficulty in speaking
6.1 have no difficulty in speaking
7. I am not sure
   - a) what others are saying
   - b) what to ask
   - c) how to say what I want to say
   - d) when to ask

8. Because I don’t have sufficient
   - a) subject knowledge
   - b) knowledge of English
   - c) practice in speaking in English

### Reading

9. I need to read and understand
   - a) foreign authors
   - b) Indian authors
   - c) technical journals

10. I have no difficulty in doing this
    yes
    no

11. It is difficult for me to understand
    a) what is written (content)
    b) how it is written (medium)

12. Because I don’t have sufficient
    a) subject knowledge
    - b) knowledge of English
    - c) practice in reading books in English

### Writing

13. I need to write
    a) assignments
    b) answers to questions

14. I have no problem in doing this
    yes
    no

15. My writing is
    - a) poor
    - b) not satisfactory

16. Because I don’t have sufficient
    a) subject knowledge
    - b) knowledge of English
    - c) practice in writing long answers

### Possible solutions

17. To be able to do well as a student of engineering
   - a) higher secondary school English syllabus and examination question pattern could have prepared me
   - b) a short English bridge course could have been arranged before I was put along with others on equal footing
   - c) I think I can learn from my classmates
18. Because none of (a), (b) or (c) has happened
   a) I have problems in communicating in English  
   b) and my confidence level is low 

Other matters
19. The present first year syllabus is helping me sufficiently. 

20. I will need help as part of regular timetable in fifth or sixth semester to communicate well in 
   group discussion interview so that I can get a good job. 

21. The English book I am using is helping me sufficiently. 

22. To teach, my English teacher uses 
   a) only the English book 
   b) English book and other books 
   c) handouts 

23. I think I need a textbook in addition to the teacher's help: yes no 

24. The kind of lessons / topics you want to have in your textbook / syllabus: 
   b. life histories of scientists, discoverers, because by reading them 
      you may be inspired to become great in future 
   b. selected short stories, novels, poems, scientific essays 
   f. selected pieces of scientific and technical information on topics like 
      energy, food production, computers, industry, pollution and environment etc. 
   g. selected poems, essays, novels and dramas from English literature 
   h. a collection of articles and letters to the editor from newspapers 
      and magazines on politics, religion, culture etc. 
   f. lessons on English pronunciation (accent, rhythm and intonation