ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING (ESL): A PERSPECTIVE OF THE COMMON BASE OF THE BRAZILIAN CURRICULUM

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ABSTRACT: This article investigates the alignment of ESL teaching within the scope of the Brazilian Common Curricular Base (BNCC). With English proficiency becoming increasingly vital for academic, professional, and global communication purposes, BNCC emphasizes the importance of English language teaching in Brazil. Through a comprehensive examination of challenges, pedagogical strategies, and implications for policy and practice, this study aims to contribute to the discourse on improving English language teaching in Brazil. Drawing on literature, empirical research, and practical insights, the article provides practical recommendations for optimizing ESL teaching and learning in the Brazilian educational setting. By addressing the multifaceted dimensions of ESL teaching, the study offers guidance to stakeholders invested in improving English language proficiency among Brazilian students.

Keywords: Pedagogical Alignment. Teaching English Language. Common Brazilian Curricular Base.

RESUMO: Este artigo investiga o imperativo crítico de aprimorar a competência dos professores de ESL no âmbito da Base Comum Curricular Brasileira (BNCC). Com a proficiência em inglês se tornando cada vez mais vital para fins acadêmicos, profissionais e de comunicação global, a BNCC enfatiza a importância do ensino da língua inglesa no Brasil. No entanto, a eficácia do ensino ESL depende em grande parte da competência dos professores. Através de um exame abrangente dos desafios, das estratégias pedagógicas e das implicações para as políticas e práticas, este estudo visa contribuir para o discurso sobre a melhoria do ensino da língua inglesa no Brasil. Baseando-se na literatura, em pesquisas empíricas e em insights práticos, o artigo fornece recomendações práticas para otimizar o ensino e a aprendizagem de ESL no cenário educacional brasileiro. Ao abordar as dimensões multifacetadas do ensino de ESL, o estudo oferece orientação para as partes interessadas investidas no aprimoramento da proficiência na língua inglesa entre os alunos brasileiros.


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1. INTRODUCTION

In Brazil, teaching English as a Second Language (ESL) is incredibly important and is a key part of the national education agenda. As globalization continues to connect us all, English has become the dominant language in many areas, making it crucial for students who want to succeed in an increasingly competitive and interconnected world.

Therefore, ESL teachers must be highly skilled in delivering effective instruction. This article explores the crucial need to improve ESL teachers' competence within the Brazilian Common Curricular Base (BNCC) context.

It provides insights into the challenges, strategies, and implications of enhancing ESL pedagogy in the Brazilian educational system. The Brazilian Common Curricular Base (BNCC) is a significant milestone in the country’s education system. It aims to provide a unified framework for educational practices across different regions and institutions. Within this framework, the teaching of the English language is essential as proficiency in English is necessary for academic and professional success.

Additionally, it helps in facilitating global communication and cultural exchange. However, the quality of English language education in Brazil depends largely on the competence and effectiveness of ESL teachers.

The study aims to contribute to the discourse on enhancing English language education in Brazil by examining the challenges ESL teachers face, identifying effective pedagogical strategies, and analyzing the implications for policy and practice.

This article examines the complexity of teaching English as a Second Language (ESL) in Brazil by reviewing relevant literature, empirical research findings, and practical insights. The initial objective is the alignment between the proposals brought by BNCC, and language teaching as currently seen. Our discussion will focus on different aspects of ESL instruction in the Brazilian educational system.

Identifying the main challenges, exploring effective teaching methods, and discussing the implications for policy and practice. By combining theoretical frameworks with empirical evidence, this article aims to provide a detailed understanding of how such alignment may or may not affect ESL teaching in Brazil.

It also offers guidance to those who are interested in improving English language education for Brazilian learners. This article delves into the critical imperative of enhancing
ESL teachers' competence within the framework of the Brazilian Common Curricular Base (BNCC).

With proficiency in English becoming increasingly vital for academic, professional, and global communication purposes, the BNCC emphasizes the significance of English language education in Brazil.

Based on literature, empirical research and practical insights, the article provides practical recommendations for optimizing ESL teaching and learning in the Brazilian educational setting. By addressing the multifaceted dimensions of ESL teaching, the study guides stakeholders invested in improving English proficiency among Brazilian students.

Moreover, the inclusion of terms such as "Collaborative Learning Communities" or "Project-based Education" could be integral to ensuring that ESL education aligns with the principles of the BNCC, fostering cooperation among educators, students, families, and communities to promote inclusive practices and equitable opportunities for academic success.

2. METHODOLOGY

A bibliographic methodology can be utilized in the article 'Improving Teachers' Competence in Teaching English Language (ESL): A Perspective from the Brazilian Common Curricular Base' to offer multiple advantages for academia and research. By employing a bibliographic approach, the research systematically reviews and analyzes existing literature, theoretical references, empirical studies, and pedagogical practices relevant to the topic.

This methodology enables scholars to contextualize their research within the broader academic discourse, identify gaps in knowledge, and build upon existing theoretical foundations. Firstly, conducting a comprehensive literature review using bibliographic methods allows researchers to gain a thorough understanding of the key concepts, theories, and debates surrounding ESL teaching and the Brazilian Common Curricular Base (BNCC).

By synthesizing insights from a wide range of sources, the researcher can develop a nuanced understanding of the complexities and challenges inherent in teaching ESL in the Brazilian educational context.

The bibliographic methodology can be useful in identifying effective pedagogical strategies, best practices, and innovative approaches to teaching ESL that have been documented in the literature. The research can benefit from this vast knowledge to improve their teaching
practices, develop curriculums, and make policy recommendations that aim to enhance ESL instruction in Brazilian public schools.

In the field of ESL teaching and language education, the research can contribute to the advancement of knowledge by critically analyzing and synthesizing existing research findings. By conducting bibliographic research, scholars can identify emerging trends, theoretical frameworks, and methodological approaches that have the potential to inform future research agendas and shape pedagogical practices in the Brazilian educational system.

Using a bibliographic methodology can increase the credibility and rigor of academic research. It does this by grounding the research in existing scholarship and empirical evidence. Researchers can strengthen the validity and reliability of their findings by citing reputable sources and using established theoretical frameworks. This, in turn, enhances the overall quality and impact of their research contributions.

Academics can use the bibliographic methodology to review, analyze, and synthesize existing literature on ESL teaching and the Brazilian Common Curricular Base (BNCC) in a systematic and rigorous manner. By leveraging insights from academic discourse, researchers can generate new knowledge, inform educational practice, and contribute to ongoing efforts to improve English language instruction in Brazilian public schools. Research that is in line with the BNCC ensures that studies are relevant and applicable to the Brazilian educational context, which in turn promotes the coherence and integration of national curricular objectives with ESL teaching practices.

3. THE BRAZILIAN COMMON CURRICULAR BASE (BNCC) AND ITS LINES

The Brazilian Common Curricular Base (BNCC) represents a landmark in the country’s educational reform efforts, aiming to provide a unified framework for educational practices across diverse regions and institutions.

Encompassing a wide range of subjects and disciplines, the BNCC sets forth essential learning objectives and competencies that all students in Brazil should achieve at each educational stage. Within this comprehensive framework, the teaching of the English language assumes particular significance, reflecting the growing recognition of English as a vital tool for academic, professional, and global communication purposes.

The integration of English language instruction into the Brazilian National Common Core Curriculum (BNCC) presents both opportunities and challenges for public schools across
Brazil. On the one hand, the inclusion of English as a core subject recognizes its importance in the educational landscape and demonstrates a commitment to equipping students with the language skills necessary for success in a globalized world. Even given the speech made by BNCC, the English language should have gained breadth so that it could raise the status of English language teaching in public schools, which should allow for better resources, teacher training, and curriculum development initiatives. However, implementing English language instruction within the BNCC also poses significant challenges for public schools. Limited resources, infrastructure constraints, and teacher shortages may hinder the effective delivery of English language education, particularly in underserved communities.

Ensuring alignment between the BNCC’s learning objectives and the teaching approaches used in English language classrooms also requires careful coordination and collaboration among stakeholders at the national, regional, and local levels. However, BNCC brought a reduction in English language classes for high school, in elementary school, there are still two classes. But this change occurred due to the way in which the English language is seen today, no longer as a foreign language, but rather as a lingua franca. This differs from the old National Education Parameters, a document before the BNCC, which contained:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language Status</th>
<th>What is in the PCNs</th>
<th>How is it at BNCC</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>In practice</strong></td>
<td>From the perspective of a lingua franca, English ceases to belong only to natives (where the language is taught as the mother tongue, in England, Canada, or the United States, for example), and begins to be incorporated by people in varied contexts, and in practices and real interactions. English is used for greater insertion in the academic, cultural, and marketing world.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Contents</strong></td>
<td>A technical view of teaching English predominated, with the study of the language focused on its linguistic and word structures.</td>
<td>There is an expansion in the approach to the language to provide more real exposure to the language via varied texts and authentic multimedia and to work with different genres, which bring real practices of using the language closer to the classroom, according to local needs.</td>
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As the way of seeing the language has changed, strategies should change. The big challenge, at this point, is precisely to assume that the BNCC must be expanded to the entire country, and even taking into account the disparities of differences in Brazilian territory, the difficulties are enormous. One has to think, for example, that the proposal is "an expansion in the approach to the language to provide a more real exposure to the language via varied texts and authentic multimedia and to work on different genres, which bring real practices of use closer to the classroom of the language, according to local needs" How to do this, if there are educational contexts where there is barely electricity, internet, similar digital resources and/or if you want professionals in the area.

We are not saying that in all schools, schools, and perspectives of teaching lingua franca, we have difficulties in Brazil, we are, through listening experience, emphasizing that there are many structural demands to be resolved and BNCC, and contributed to configuring even more a difficulty. As the BNCC provides a standardized structure for teaching the English language, which should promote consistency and coherence in curriculum design, assessment practices, and teaching strategies, this is not what we currently have, as the challenges are gigantic and sometimes, rigid.

This lack of coherence has promoted a debate among school peers throughout the national territory, especially in the case of English language teaching, as many of the students in Brazilian public schools only take classes in that language, at the school itself, as there are a good result, when there is only one 50-minute class per week, when access to quality English language teaching, should be ensuring that all students, regardless of their socioeconomic context or geographical location, have the opportunity to develop proficiency in English. since, maintaining English language teaching at BNCC should improve students' linguistic and cultural skills, allowing them to engage more effectively in intercultural communication and collaboration.

English classes were already few and far between in PCNs, and now they are still. Even worse, it tends to do more harm to the teaching of a lingua franca, which not only prepares
students for academic and professional success but also promotes greater social cohesion and global citizenship. Furthermore, by equipping students with English language skills, BNCC should encourage students to secure higher education opportunities through participation in international exchange programs and access to a wider range of employment prospects, comprehensive and humanized training, in skills and abilities for the 21st century, in an increasingly globalized society.

The inclusion of English language instruction within the BNCC enhances students’ linguistic and cultural competencies, enabling them to engage more effectively in cross-cultural communication and collaboration. In general, teaching, as aligned in the BNCC, is not bad, skills such as communication, self-management, empathy and cooperation, autonomy, and scientific and critical thinking are some of the general skills to be developed in an integrated way within the curricular components, including the English language, whose working hours were drastically reduced.

Debates have been held over recent times, and even though we know that in some proposals the BNCC is very flexible, this is not the case, as the disparities about this discipline are likely to widen due to a lack of equity.

3.1 THE PRACTICE OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING

We can say that the integration of English language teaching into the Brazilian Common Curricular Base (BNCC) should be a fundamental effort, in line with the seminal works of renowned scholars Jeremy Harmer and H. Douglas Brown. His in-depth knowledge of effective language teaching methodologies and pedagogical principles offers invaluable guidance for enhancing the competence of English teachers within the BNCC framework.

According to Harmer, “In language teaching, the ultimate goal is not just to impart knowledge, but to awaken a passion for learning the chosen language in individuals”, this statement underlines the transformative aim of language teaching by emphasizing the cultivation of intrinsic motivation and lifelong learning habits. It resonates deeply with the spirit of student-centered instruction and underscores the importance of promoting a dynamic and engaging learning environment, aligning harmony with curriculum principles. But with the lack of classes and the lack of professionals in the public sector, between theory and practice, there is an abysmal gap.
The proposals in Hammer's text bring an in-depth discussion about the role of integration in language teaching, in everyday school life, which appears in an enlightening way in the context of the National Common Curricular Base (BNCC). The author highlights the relevance of communicative language teaching, which prioritizes the development of practical language skills applicable in real-life situations, as well as in our Base proposal. This approach is aligned with BNCC's goal of promoting students' ability to communicate effectively in different contexts, such as personal, academic, and professional. However, a heated debate is still needed in the school community to make these studies more efficient and validated by those involved in this process.

The author in question also highlights the need for a shift towards student-centered approaches in language teaching, moving away from traditional teacher-centered methods. In this regard, Harmer emphasizes that language teaching is not just about teaching, but also about making people learn and identify (see functionality in that) with what they are learning. This summarizes the essence of pedagogical evolution, highlighting the transformative shift to more practical and dynamic teaching practices that encourage student engagement and participation.

It is fundamental to observe the importance of effective integration of communicative language teaching in the BNCC, emphasizing the need for learner-centered approaches that promote practical language skills. This will help ensure that students are better equipped to communicate effectively in various contexts and achieve their personal, academic, and professional goals.

Within the BNCC's purview, this translates to a concerted effort to guide students toward authentic language use and meaningful communication, aligning seamlessly with the overarching objectives outlined in the curriculum framework. As Harmer aptly posits, "The goal of language teaching is to facilitate the “transfer” of skills from the classroom to the real world," underscoring the imperative of bridging the gap between classroom instruction and practical application.

Complementing Harmer's paradigm, H. Douglas Brown's work delves into the intricate interplay of psychological and cognitive factors inherent in language learning. Brown's assertion that "language learning is not just a matter of intelligence; It's also a matter of attitude" resonates profoundly within the BNCC framework, emphasizing the pivotal role of motivation and learner autonomy in shaping students' language acquisition experiences.
Brown's principles seem to be the basis for the BNCC's commitment to inclusivity and differentiation, recognizing the diverse array of learning styles and needs prevalent among students. This holistic perspective underscores the imperative of fostering a supportive learning environment that nurtures individual growth and engagement.

The integration of technology into language teaching, championed by Harmer, and the emphasis on creating an interactive learning environment, championed by Brown, work together to improve English language teaching. By also using digital tools and promoting collaborative learning experiences, educators can facilitate authentic linguistic practice and cultural exploration, thus improving students' language learning journeys and the integration of English language teaching into the Brazilian Common Curricular Base (BNCC) represents a transformative pedagogical approach, inspired by the deep insights of Jeremy Harmer and H. Douglas Brown, and, as we said, apparently BNCC is well involved in these theories.

The apparent alignment of the theories of the authors mentioned above, are seen in different spaces within the BNCC. Although the Base has the contribution of various agents of society, the contributions extracted from authors such as Harmer and Brown are clear, but without leaving aside the issues of transitions in Brazilian society.

By incorporating their principles of communicative language teaching, learner autonomy, and cultural integration, educators stand poised to cultivate dynamic and engaging learning experiences that align with the goals of the BNCC, thereby catalyzing the attainment of enhanced language proficiency among students.

4. Results and Discussion

This study conducted a thorough bibliographic exploration to understand the critical importance of enhancing the competence of English as a Second Language (ESL) teachers within the framework of the Brazilian Common Curricular Base (BNCC). The exploration aimed to provide a comprehensive understanding of the complexities and challenges inherent in ESL instruction within the Brazilian educational landscape.

The exploration included a systematic review of existing literature, theoretical frameworks, empirical studies, and pedagogical practices. Through this review, key themes and considerations emerged that shed light on the issues faced by ESL teachers in Brazil.

The results and discussion of the study showed that the BNCC provides a framework for the development of competencies that are essential for ESL teachers to successfully teach
their students. The study revealed that enhancing the competence of ESL teachers is necessary to meet the learning needs of students, particularly those who face language barriers.

Furthermore, the exploration showed that there is a need for a culturally responsive approach to ESL instruction in Brazil. The study found that teachers need to be equipped with the skills and knowledge to understand the cultural backgrounds of their students and to create a classroom environment that promotes inclusivity and diversity.

One of the most important conclusions drawn from the literature review is the unanimous acknowledgment of the crucial role that English language proficiency plays in academic, professional, and global communication contexts within Brazil. This recognition is further emphasized by the inclusion of English language instruction in the BNCC, which highlights the significance of providing students with practical language skills and cultural competencies that are necessary for success in our increasingly interconnected world.

Through the literature review, we have identified several effective pedagogical strategies and approaches that can significantly enhance the competence of ESL teachers and optimize English language education within the Brazilian educational system. Among these approaches, the communicative language teaching methodology has proven to be particularly effective, emphasizing the importance of authentic communication and interaction in the target language. By adopting this methodology, teachers can create dynamic and engaging learning environments that promote language acquisition and cultural understanding among students.

According to the literature on language instruction, promoting learner-centered approaches is an essential strategy. This approach emphasizes student autonomy, active participation, and personalized learning experiences, enabling students to take ownership of their language learning journey.

Integrating technology into language learning is essential for effective ESL teaching. It offers interactive learning opportunities, multimedia resources, and authentic use of language, significantly enhancing the learning experience. In Brazil, incorporating cultural elements into language teaching is not an option, but a necessity to optimize ESL teaching. Teachers, as we know, try to enrich students' linguistic and cultural skills by integrating cultural content, literature, and real-world contexts into language classes. What needs to be made clear is the need to take into account the relationship in which that school community is located, so that teaching is increasingly more effective. This approach promotes intercultural awareness and appreciation among students, making it a crucial pedagogical strategy.
In addition to this, it is of utmost importance to integrate cultural and linguistic diversity into ESL instruction to promote social justice and equity within the educational system. Teachers must embrace students’ diverse linguistic backgrounds and cultural identities to create a more inclusive environment that empowers learners to actively engage in their education. This approach aligns with the principles of the BNCC, which prioritize equity, diversity, and inclusion in education. Therefore, teachers must implement this approach in their ESL instruction to ensure a fair and enriching learning experience for all students.

The creation of collaborative learning communities has emerged as a critical factor in improving ESL education and promoting social justice and equity. Collaborative learning environments promote peer interaction, knowledge sharing, and cooperative problem solving, which helps students develop essential communication skills and intercultural competencies. This approach promotes a sense of belonging and community among students, regardless of their linguistic or socioeconomic background, leading to a more equitable and inclusive learning environment. Or they should do so.

Furthermore, we understand that to promote social justice and equity in ESL education, it is crucial to address systemic barriers and inequities that impede students’ academic performance. Educators can work toward creating more equitable and inclusive educational opportunities for all students by advocating for policies that prioritize equal access to resources, supporting culturally responsive teaching practices, and challenging dominant discourses and power structures. A careful look is made at this demand, since, as mentioned here previously, school realities are different, as well as economic realities, which can have a different impact on the results of these classes and this period dedicated to teaching the English language in the schools.

The findings and analyzes initially presented here shed light on the different factors that play a role in improving ESL in the context of the Brazilian National Common Curricular Base (BNCC). By implementing unified teaching methods, while embracing cultural and linguistic diversity, promoting collaborative learning environments, and advocating social justice and equity, all stakeholders could work together to optimize English language teaching and help Brazilian students to be successful in the globalized world of the 21st century, if given time, structure, and conditions for alignment between what is on the pages of the BNCC and what is actually in the classroom.
5. FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

Our research extensively explored the importance of retraining English as a Second Language (ESL) skills in light of the Brazilian Common Curricular Base (BNCC). We meticulously analyze key themes and considerations to gain a comprehensive understanding of the various aspects of English language teaching.

It revealed that numerous challenges hinder the effective implementation of ESL teaching in public schools in Brazil. These challenges include adequate teacher training, in general, little or no access to technological tools in classes, lack of resources, and lack of support from policymakers when it comes to time for effective contact practice with the language at school.

To address these challenges and capitalize on these opportunities, we have recommended several strategies and suggestions. These include providing ongoing professional development opportunities for ESL teachers, increasing the availability of resources and materials, and promoting collaboration between teachers, students, and parents. Additionally, we suggest that policymakers prioritize the allocation of resources to support English language education and establish clear guidelines and standards for ESL instruction in public schools.

Proficiency in the English language is a crucial skill required for academic, professional, and global communication purposes. Therefore, it is essential to integrate English language instruction into the BNCC. By incorporating English language learning objectives within the BNCC, Brazil aims to equip its students with practical language skills and cultural competencies necessary for navigating an increasingly interconnected world.

The emphasis on developing linguistic and intercultural competencies prepares Brazilian students to communicate effectively and engage meaningfully in diverse cultural settings. This aligns with the overarching goal of the BNCC, which is to foster holistic student development.

English language instruction in the Brazilian National Common Curricular Base (BNCC) faces significant challenges. Limited resources, infrastructure constraints, teacher shortages, and disparities in access to quality English language education present significant obstacles to enhancing the competence of ESL teachers and optimizing English language instruction in Brazilian public schools.

To address these challenges effectively, policymakers, educators, and stakeholders across all levels of the education system must collaborate. Strategic measures must be taken to mitigate
these barriers and ensure equitable access to high-quality English language education for all students.

It is essential to highlight the significance of continuous professional development for English as a Second Language (ESL) teachers. Improving the quality of English language instruction in public schools in Brazil requires investing in teacher training programs, providing comprehensive support for lifelong learning, and promoting a culture of collaboration and reflective practice.

By continuously developing their skills, ESL teachers can keep up with emerging pedagogical trends, refine their teaching techniques, and adapt to the evolving needs of diverse student populations. This, in turn, enhances the overall effectiveness of English language education.

The literature review has identified many effective methods and techniques for improving the competency of ESL teachers and enhancing English language education in the Brazilian educational context. These methods include using communicative language teaching approaches, focusing on learner-centered instruction, integrating technology into language learning, and incorporating cultural elements into language teaching. By using these strategies, educators can create engaging learning experiences that help students acquire language, develop cultural awareness, and communicate meaningfully with others.

The text emphasizes the critical need to enhance the expertise of English as a Second Language (ESL) teachers within the Brazilian Common Curricular Base (BNCC) framework. By tackling challenges head-on, utilizing effective teaching strategies, and investing in initiatives that enhance teacher professionalism, stakeholders can work together to optimize English language education in Brazil.

This collaborative effort will equip Brazilian students with the essential language skills and cultural competencies needed to excel in today’s interconnected and multicultural world. Ultimately, this will support the BNCC’s goals and promote the holistic development of all learners.

It’s crucial to note that language learning is not only about mastering a new language. It’s also about achieving larger educational goals, such as promoting social justice and equality. By providing equal access to high-quality English language education, Brazil can address systemic inequalities and empower marginalized communities. This approach will help to promote social inclusion and cohesion.
Moreover, embracing diverse linguistic and cultural backgrounds within ESL instruction creates a welcoming and inclusive learning environment where all learners feel valued and respected. This not only improves academic outcomes but also promotes a sense of belonging and self-esteem, which is crucial for overall well-being and success.

Collaborative learning communities are an effective way to improve ESL education and promote social justice and equity. By encouraging students from different backgrounds to work together, educators can help them develop empathy, mutual respect, and intercultural understanding. This, in turn, can break down barriers and promote solidarity among learners.

Such environments also allow students to leverage their collective strengths and support each other’s learning, leading to a culture of academic excellence and shared responsibility. By harnessing the diverse talents and creativity of its students through collaborative learning communities, Brazil can drive innovation and promote social change.

English language education plays a crucial role in enabling individuals to actively engage in the global community and advocate for positive change. The ability to speak, read, write, and comprehend English is essential for participating effectively in cross-cultural communication, international cooperation, and global citizenship. By developing English language skills and cultural awareness in students, Brazil can prepare them to become globally competent and engaged citizens who can navigate diverse cultures and perspectives.

Proficiency in English is also an important factor in accessing higher education and employment opportunities in today’s globalized world. Many universities and employers require or prefer candidates with strong English skills, as it is the language of business, science, and diplomacy. Furthermore, English language proficiency allows individuals to participate in global conversations on issues such as environmental sustainability, social justice, and human rights. This is especially important in a world where these issues are becoming increasingly urgent and complex.

Investing in English language education is thus not only an investment in individual success but also a catalyst for societal progress and collective well-being. By providing students with the opportunity to develop English language proficiency and cultural competence, Brazil can equip them with the tools they need to succeed in an interconnected world and contribute to global conversations and initiatives. It is a wise investment that will pay dividends for both individuals and society.
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