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Introduction to English for Specific purposes **(ESP)**

« Tell me what you need English for and I will tell you the English that you need ».
(Hutchinson and Waters, 1987, p. 08).

English for specific purposes (E.S.P) has different definitions so, according to Hutchinson and Waters (1987: 19), E.S.P is defined as an approach to language teaching and Learning in which all decisions as to content and method are based on the learner's reason for Learning. So, E.S.P is an approach to language teaching and learning which is based on learners' needs. Adding to this, before teaching any language the teacher should be aware of the need (s) and the want (s) of his/her students.

In E.S.P, there are different needs for different purposes of English language e.g. English for economics, English for business, English for secretaries, English for technicians and English for nursing, English for shipping and others (Hans Berner, 2008). It means that the objectives of English language are related to the requirements of the concerned learners. So, we can say that to specialize in a specific domain the learners should learn an appropriate language, which will lead them to become flexible to cope with the target sphere.

ESP: approach not product

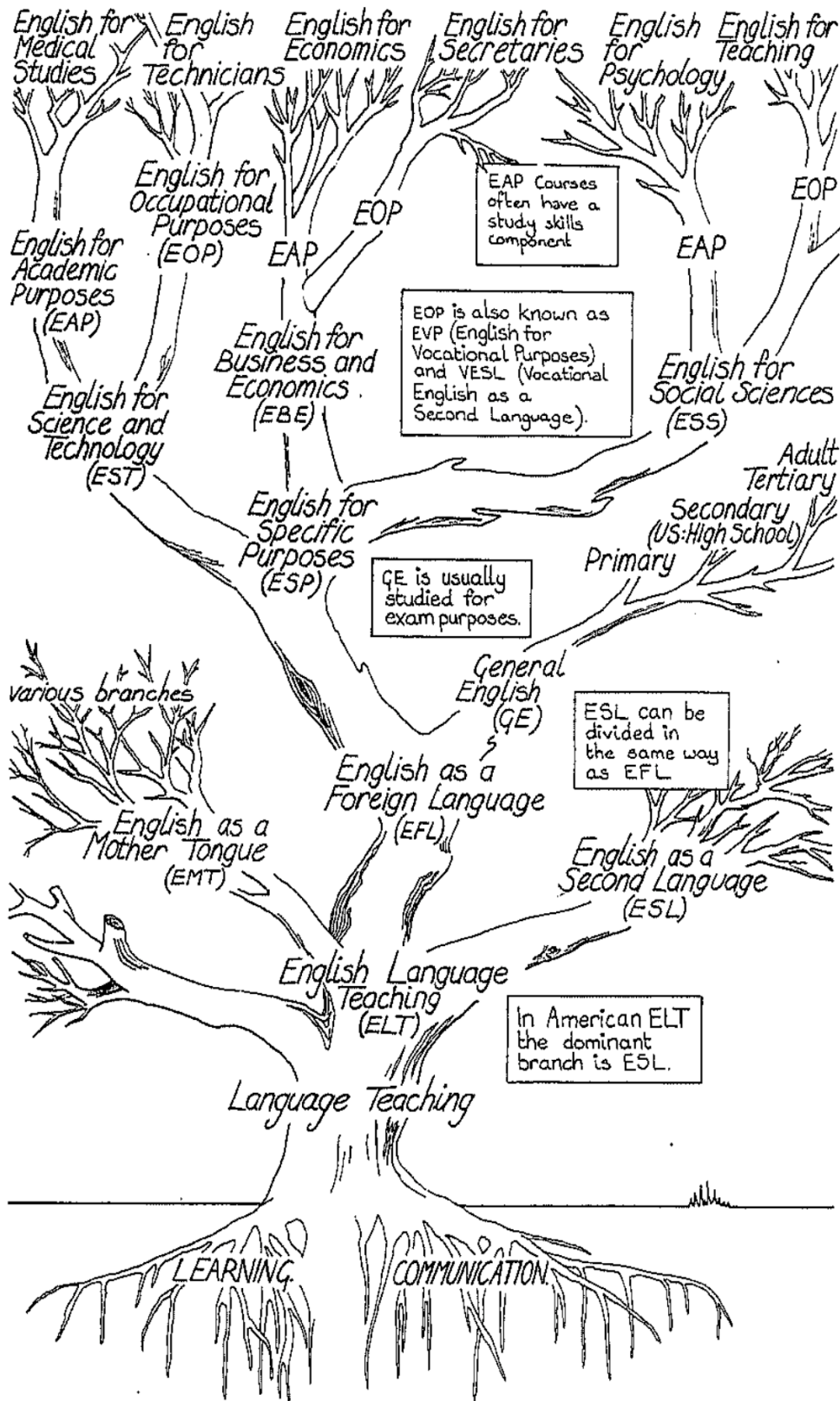


Figure 3: The tree of ELT