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The Use of Technology for Teaching Language

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ABSTRACT

The use of technology is increasing day by day for teaching purpose. Technical colleges and English medium schools are adopting new methods to teach English languages. Now a day's teachers are using different software in colleges and universities to teach languages. Communication labs, overhead projectors, English movies, and chatting through internet are proving beneficial to make the students fluent. Different exercises of vocabulary will be helpful to enhance their vocabulary with which they will be able to speak English smoothly.

Keywords: Technology; Language Learning; Internet; English Learners; Teaching-Tools.

1.0 Introduction

With the advancement of English language around the world, English language is used as a second language in India. As the number of English learner is increasing day by day Different teaching tools are being successfully used to teach the students such as- films, radio, and television for a long time. The tradition of English teaching has been changed with the significant use of technology. Technology imparts so many ways to make teaching interesting. Now English is the language of business, industries, education, communication and social-political issues.

21st century is the period of globalization. With the fast growth of science and technology, the use of technology in teaching language has increased. This use of technology is changing our communication way. It is true to assert that the growth of internet has facilitated the growth of the English language. It is essential for language teachers to be aware of the latest instruments and to possess full knowledge of what is available in the particular situation. Teachers can use multimedia technology to deliver more impressive lectures.

Now a day the traditional teaching methods are unpopular due to the excessive use of technology such as audio-visual aids, computers, internet etc which greatly cultivate students' interest in study and their involvement in class activities. The internet has provided a vast range of materials, offering many more opportunities for exposure. Now a day there are so many advanced tools available. These are very

useful for the students because they are very interesting and impart knowledge in better way

Stereotyped teaching methods have hampered students' ability and make the students passive. Therefore it is very difficult to get the aim of communication. Technology is providing new methods of teaching as-teaching through power point and such class activities as group discussion, subject discussion; debate can also offer more opportunities to improve communication skill of students.

Multimedia technology has inspired student to improve their communication skill. The use of electronic translators is fulfilling the need of students to get the meaning and to translate some line and speech. Online dictionaries are also very useful devices to get the meaning of difficult words within no time.

In the ancient time teachers used to teach with board and books only. They were enough for both students and teachers but this is a time of advance or smart education. The effect of technology has been huge. To teach language to the students in the class rooms, teachers may use tape recorders, video players, slide projectors, radio, television and overhead projectors etc. After listening to some English program, news, and movies, students may improve their pronunciation and make correct sentences. With the help of these instruments they can achieve their fluency also. As well computer aided Language Labs and Phonetics Labs are very beneficial to teach language and to get the pronunciation of students improved. Different

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software may be used like „Tell Me More“, „English Edge“ containing different exercises-word puzzle, word association, word search, cultural workshop etc. Colleges and universities are giving preference to lecture theater where a faculty teaches with the help of projector and PPTs. GD rooms are also good place for teaching where students get the chance to remove their phobia of interacting with others and develop their skills to express their views on any topic.

The lecture given by the teacher is the excellent method to teach the students but some students are too shy to ask some questions. Chatting is the best solution of this problem. Many students who are nervous in speaking have no trouble in typing their thoughts. This technology can be used in Language Labs and computer classes also. In such a way students can make groups of two-three and start chatting with each other on different topics so that they may improve their writing skills.

Teachers should provide a language rich environment in which they are constantly engaged in language activities. Students need to be able to communicate each other and they have to remove their hesitation. Computers can facilitate this type of environment. It will be an impressive tool to improve verbal communication. With the help of headphones students may practice to speak well.

To develop vocabulary and reading ability of students, teachers will have to give stories that appear on the computer screen, they can read them in loud voice and with sound effects. When they encounter with some difficult words, they will try to search the meaning of those words and learn them. Digital story telling now combines tradition with technology and allows students to tell stories through voices text, images, audio and video.

As already told, computers and software can help English language learners to develop

vocabulary, skills and knowledge. Technology can be helpful to improve writing skills also. Writing paragraph in a language that is unfamiliar to students can be difficult, while using a computer, however the use of graphics can make this much more entertaining. Using clipart may also help students to convey their thoughts more clearly.

Wikis are smart technology for classroom teachers. A wiki may be used to build a classroom dictionary in subject area. Students can find new topics and contribute their findings. The most famous example of public wiki is Wikipedia and online Encyclopedia. The teachers can post words for students to expand into definitions.

Technology is used for upliftment of modern society. English has been learned and used by more and more people. Technology has brought a revolution in the field of education and has greatly changed the way people communicate and work in society. This rapid development of technology has provided various new teaching tools. As a result technology plays a very important role in English language teaching as well as has several advantages.

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