
MODERN EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGIES IN TEACHING FOREIGN LANGUAGES



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ABSTRACT

The article considers the term of technology and technology integration, explained the use of technology in language classroom, and stated certain recommendations for the better use of these technologies, which assist learners in improving their learning skills. The literature review indicated that the effective use of new technologies improves learners' language learning skills. This study focuses on the role of using new technologies in learning English as a second/foreign language. It discussed different attitudes which support English language learners to increase their learning skills through using technologies.

Keywords: *modern educational technologies, international communication, motivating learners, integration, communicative competence, computer technology.*

АННОТАЦИЯ

В статье рассматривается термин «технология» и «интеграция технологий», объясняется использование технологий на уроках иностранных языков и формулируются определенные рекомендации по более эффективному использованию этих технологий, которые помогают учащимся улучшить свои навыки обучения. Обзор литературы показал, что эффективное использование новых технологий улучшает навыки изучения языка учащимися. Это исследование посвящено роли использования новых технологий в изучении английского языка как второго/иностранного. В нем обсуждались различные подходы, которые помогают изучающим английский язык повышать свои навыки обучения с помощью технологий.

Ключевые слова: *современные образовательные технологии, интернациональная коммуникация, мотивация обучающихся, интеграция, коммуникативная компетентность, компьютерные технологии.*

INTRODUCTION

The use of technology has become an important part of the learning process in and out of the class. Every language class usually uses some form of technology.

Technology has been used to both help and improve language learning. Technology enables teachers to adapt classroom activities, thus enhancing the language learning process. Technology continues to grow in importance as a tool to help teachers facilitate language learning for their learners.

DISCUSSION AND RESULTS

Computers are regarded as an important instructional instrument in language classes in which teachers have convenient access, are sufficiently prepared, and have some freedom in the curriculum. Computer technology is regarded by a lot of teachers to be a significant part of providing a high-quality education. Technology provides offers unlimited resources to language learners. Teachers should encourage learners to find appropriate activities through using computer technology in order to be successful in language learning. The use of suitable technological materials can be useful for learners. Using computer-based language activities improve cooperative learning in learners. Furthermore, computer-based activities provide learners rapid information and appropriate materials. They continue that internet materials motivate learners to learn more. In addition, technology provides teaching resources and brings learning experience to the learners' world. Through using technology, many authentic materials can be provided to learners and they can be motivated in learning language. Technology has always been an important part of teaching and learning environment. It is an essential part of the teachers' profession through which they can use it to facilitate learners' learning. When we talk about technology in teaching and learning, the word 'integration' is used. With technology being part of our everyday lives, it is time to rethink the idea of integrating technology into the curriculum and aim to embed technology into teaching to support the learning process. That is to say, technology becomes an integral part of the learning experience and a significant issue for teachers, from the beginning of preparing learning experiences through to teaching and learning process. Language teaching method has been changed due to technology. The application of technology helps learners learn on the basis of their interests. It also satisfies both visual and auditory senses of the learners. Technology assists learners in adjusting their own learning process and they can have access to a lot of information that their teachers are not able to provide. The use of technologies has the great potential to change the existing language teaching methods. Learners can control their own learning process and have access to many information over which their teachers cannot control. Technology has an important role in promoting activities for learners and has a significant effect on teachers' teaching methods. If

teachers do not use technologies in their teaching they will never be able to keep up with these technologies. Thus, it is very important for teachers to have a full knowledge of these technologies in teaching language skills. Developing learners' knowledge and skills pertinent to computer technology provides equity of opportunity, regardless of learners' background. Although learners have been born into a technologically rich world, they may not be skillful users of technology. In addition, just providing access to technology is not adequate. Meaningful development of technology-based knowledge is significant for all learners in order to maximize their learning. [Brown, D. 2001]

Language is the most important means of communication, the existence and development of human society is impossible without it. The current changes in social relations, communication means (the use of new information technologies) require increasing the communicative competence of students, improving their philological preparation. In order they could exchange their thoughts in different situations in the process of interaction with other communicators, using the system of language and speech norms and choosing communicative behavior adequate to the authentic situation of communication. [Arifah, A.,2014]

In this situation technology is an effective tool for learners. Learners must use technology as a significant part of their learning process. Teachers should model the use of technology to support the curriculum so that learners can increase the true use of technology in learning their language skills. Learners' cooperation can be increased through technology. Cooperation is one of the important tools for learning. Learners cooperatively work together to create tasks and learn from each other through reading their peers' work.

The use of computer technology leads to the improvement of teachers' teaching and learners' learning in the classes. The use of computer technology helps teachers meet their learners' educational needs. The application of computer technology enables teachers and learners to make local and global societies that connect them with the people and expand opportunities for their learning. They continued that the positive effect of computer technology does not come automatically; it depends on how teachers use it in their language classrooms. [Jonassen, H., 1999:45]

The application of technology has considerably changed English teaching methods. It provides so many alternatives as making teaching interesting and more productive in terms of advancement. In traditional classrooms, teachers stand in front of learners and give lecture, explanation, and instruction through using blackboard or

whiteboard. These methods must be changed concerning the development of technology. The usage of multimedia texts in classroom assists learners in become familiar with vocabulary and language structures. The application of multimedia also makes use of print texts, film, and internet to enhance learners’ linguistic knowledge. The use of print, film, and internet gives learners the chance to collect information and offers them different materials for the analysis and interpretation of both language and contexts.

Using technology can create a learning atmosphere centered on the learner rather than the teacher that in turn creates positive changes. By using computer technology, language class becomes an active place full of meaningful tasks where the learners are responsible for their learning. Using computer technology indicates a true learning experience that enhances learners’ responsibilities. Technology encourages learners to learn individually and to acquire responsible behaviors. The independent use of technologies gives learners self-direction.

The use of internet increases learners’ motivation. The use of film in teaching helps learners to realize the topic with enthusiasm and develop their knowledge. Learners can learn meaningfully when technology is used in the process of learning through using computer and internet. When learners learn with technology, it assists them in developing their higher order thinking skills. It can be concluded that the true combination of multimedia and teaching methodology is very important to attract learners’ attention towards English language learning.

In the following section, I present some recommendations for pupils to improve their language skills through using technology:

1. The computer technology is an integral part of the learning activity through which skills are transferred to learners.
3. Language teachers should urge their learners to use technology in developing their language skills.
4. Technology is one of the important tools of language learning activity; it helps learners to improve their language learning skills.
5. Teachers should encourage their learners to use technology in increasing their language abilities.
6. Teachers should create technology-integrated lesson materials. These materials should concentrate on teaching and learning, not just on technology issues.
7. Teachers should find the ways that technology can help them towards learner-centered instruction as opposed to teacher-centered instruction.

CONCLUSIONS

To sum up, the findings of this literature review showed that technology provides interaction between teachers and learners, provides comprehensible input and output, helps learners to develop thinking skills, makes learning and teaching becomes more student-centered, promotes learners' autonomy and helps them feel more confident, and increases learners' motivation to effectively learn a foreign language.

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