



ENHANCING WRITING SKILL THROUGH FACEBOOK

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ABSTRACT



The present education system adopts technology as a part of teaching and learning. The present students are techno savvy, they are born with technology. The 21st century students have more interest in these technologies. Many teachers started using technology for teaching, including the social media. Social media like Facebook are more effective than classroom teaching. The students are more active in this kind of Internet based tools for teaching. They are never ready to spend time to study books, because their minds are fully weird with technology. Social media like Facebook helps for chatting with friends provided they have account, Facebook is not only for that purpose, it is also used to enhance the students' writing skills. From this kind of online writing students get lot of new words. This paper discusses how Facebook is used as tool for enhancing the students writing skill.

Keywords: Facebook, Chat room, Techno-savvy, Strategies, Multi-media, Script.

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BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

Even though speech is primary in any language, writing is also important. Though other three basic skills of language learning are easy to access, people face difficulty in writing. They never get a chance to learn and practice their writing skill. In their daily life and in academics, they have got minimum number of forums for writing. The present students are all techno natives. They have lot of

interest in technology; they spend lot of their leisure time with technology. In these technologies social media is one of the large Ocean that occupy the students time. From these kind of social networks students got worldwide opportunities to learn. The students of the under graduate level have lots of writing problems, because they do not learn to write their own thoughts from their school education. So they face problems in coherence, grammar and way



of presentation. This research is conducted using Facebook as a tool to develop the students writing skill.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. Is writing a neglected skill?
2. How can we use Facebook as a writing tool?
3. How effective is using Facebook helps for developing writing skill?

DISCUSSION

The present students are all totally different from the past generation. They are all born with technology; they have lot of interest in technology. The students spend there half of the leisure time in using social networks like Facebook, WhatsApp and Hike. Facebook is a social media to chat and share photos, videos with friends who have account in that, Facebook is not only for that purpose, it also have many useful matters like general knowledge, fashion, journals, ...etc. which have useful information. 21st century students have account in Facebook, they want to engage themselves with the world. Every day the users of Facebook increase by the young buddies at the same time the English language knowledge of the users also develops. These kinds of social networks made a broad way to chat with the native speakers. Tamil Nadu School education curriculum is mainly focuses on speaking. In all languages speaking is primary, but writing form is also important as speaking. The under graduate students have lots of problems in writing, because the school education system restricted them from writing their own thoughts. In schools the students practice writing in the examination point of view, beyond that they do not have any writing practices. At the same time they do not get any social space to practice their writing ability because mostly they used their mother tongue to write. The first year college students face lots of problems in writing, because of their past school writing practices. At the same time they are all technocrats, they find hard to listen to the teachers teaching in class. In this critical situation teachers feel difficult to handle the students in teaching and learning process. So, teachers have to change their teaching methods, using visuals and technology as they are the most effective way of teaching to the

present young learners. Social media like Facebook have lot of ways to develop the learners writing, because Facebook has lots of space to express the learners thought. Students have accounts in Facebook; they think Facebook as a space for comments about any political and social issues. These kinds of activities are all made to develop their writing style. So teachers can utilize Facebook as a tool for enhancing the students writing skill. The teachers give writing assignments through Facebook, this kind of tasks are more comfortable to the students. In this kind of Facebook tasks the students find lots of interest because they can easily access the assignment as they have time in their own pace. At the same time they can access the assignments anytime and anywhere.

"It has become obvious that technology has exceeded humanity" - Albert Einstein.

Students mostly chat with unknown people whom they have never met. Hence they have a wider chance of connectivity across the globe, which would surely create opportunities to learn each other's language. Especially in English language writing, this social network chatting develops the students writing skill. Such activities are all more interesting to the students. The teachers may also use such chatting tool to develop the students writing skill. The teacher can give activities like paragraph writing, film review, general advices etc. The teachers should be a part of this activity.

MERITS OF THIS METHOD

In this method students should learn and write by their own, so self-learning is practiced. The student one who feels inferior may easily connect with their teachers to clarify their doubts. Teachers also find it easy to give task to the students as they have time to do that. The Accessibility to this method is a merit of this method. There is a proven gradual development taken place, after some regular exercises.

LIMITATIONS

* In this method Internet and power is one of the most powerful needs of this method, which is also its drawback.



* The students are sometimes distracted from writing to some other chats.

* The teachers should spend their time in Facebook to develop writing skill.

* The teachers also have knowledge about the Facebook and systems.

CONCLUSIONS

This kind of writing activities is more effective to the present language learners, but with few restrictions. "Technology is just a tool. In terms of getting the kids working together and motivating them, the teacher is the most important." Bill Gates.

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