



THE JOY OF LEARNING ENGLISH: TECHNOLOGY ASSISTED LANGUAGE LEARNING

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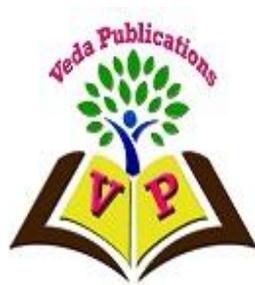
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ABSTRACT

Language is dynamic which is constantly growing and evolving. Language communication has changed over the years. English is increasingly becoming a universal language. It is the language of International business and communication, the official language. Learning English is considered the main factor for professional success and criterion for being educated in many fields. Technology has been evolving rapidly over past decades, and as such, some forms of it are beginning to play a role in the classroom. There has been a shift in pedagogy in the teaching of English language. Education and policy makers have also turned to the range of technologies available for use in language learning and teaching. Teachers are not the sole source of information. Blended learning has now taken over which includes the use of digital and online media to teach students. This combination of physical and virtual courses enhances the dissemination of knowledge more than any other time in history. The present article focuses on teaching English through various applications.

Keywords: *English, Language, Technology, Blended Learning.*





Language is dynamic which is constantly growing and evolving. Language communication has changed over the years. English is increasingly becoming a universal language. It is the language of International business and communication, the official language of over fifty countries and the third most common native language in the world. Learning English is considered the main factor for professional success and criterion for being educated in many fields. Motivation plays an effective role on academic achievement among students in general and English in particular. Interest, aptitude and motivation for learning English and the chances of success in foreign language depends to a large extent on the favorable attitude towards English language. Nik Peachey states in his interview, "technology," has a huge potential to transform education on a global scale. Technology plays a massive part in day to day life for so many of us; it makes sense that it is incorporated into learning. Technology fascinates us and engages us. Encouraging students to take part is arguably the most important part of any lesson plan, incorporating technology especially creatively could be the element that transforms a dull lesson into a captivating one. Technology has been evolving rapidly over past decades, and as such, some forms of it are beginning to play a role in the classroom. There has been a shift in pedagogy in the teaching of English language. Education and policy makers have also turned to the range of technologies available for use in language learning and teaching. Teachers are not the sole source of information. Blended learning has now taken over which includes the use of digital and online media to teach students. This combination of physical and virtual courses enhances the dissemination of knowledge more than any other time in history

Technology Assisted Language Learning (TALL) is an infallible means to develop profound knowledge and wide range of language skills. It instills in EFL learners an illimitable passion for task-based and skills oriented learning rather than rote memorization. New technological gadgets have commoditized a broad-based learning and teaching avenues and brought the whole learning process to life. A vast variety of authentic online- learning resources, motivational visual prompts, exciting

videos, web-based interactivity and customizable language software, email, discussion forums, Skype, Twitter, apps, Internet mobiles, Facebook and YouTube have become obtrusive tools to enhance competence and performan. Here are few applications to learn English with fun. Using apps in the classroom adds a whole new dimension to student learning by reinforcing the material and allowing students to experience language through fresh, uncharted and interactive means, beyond the pen, paper and textbook. This is a novel idea for students as much as it is for teachers— they've probably never had a real reason to use their gadgets in class before. And that novelty is great at inspiring excitement and enthusiasm for learning

WhatsApp:

WhatsApp is a mobile chat application that allows you to chat with people you know and make new connections. You can have one-on-one text conversations, participate in group chats and make calls through the app. WhatsApp is very popular worldwide. It is free and easy to use, available for most phones. WhatsApp has several features that can become powerful educational tools for English language learners. There are several groups on We What's App that were created with English learners in mind. Like Learn English World Wide and International Friends In class room also a teacher can upload a bite of any news on which debate can be done. After uploading the video, students can be asked to comprehend the video. Even, students can have a debate on that topic. This practice will help students enhance the skills of listening and writing and it can also arouse their interest.

Hello Talk:

An app aimed to facilitate speaking practice and eliminate the potential stress of real time conversation. Learners can find native speakers and converse with them using a whatsapp-like chat with voice and text messages. Users can correct each other's messages with an in-built correction tool, which transforms the language exchanges into tiny tutoring sessions.

Memrise:

This application helps us to learn new words and phrases. Words are put into sentences with



similar sounding words from native language to help build the connection for remembering them.

Busuu: Through this app we can enhance our vocabulary. Vocabulary is taught through phrases, both isolated and in sentences and we can test ourselves by taking quizzes and move forward through the levels to test our knowledge.

Rosetta stone:

It is a profession- grad service for language learning. Pictures are tied to common phrases and we can listen to them and repeat to practice pronunciation. There is also a phrase book with basic words and words related to restaurant, hotels, clothing etc, which helps us to get acquainted with words used in our daily life.

American English app:

Students can listen to many audio clips from this app and they can read paragraphs as a reading comprehension.

Soundtrap:

It provides a platform to create music online, quickly and easily. It helps in inculcate the habit of learning in an interesting manner.

Storyboard:

It helps to inculcate the speaking skills. Students can creat their stories with the help of Websites like Zooburst or storyboard.

Babbel:

Babbel focuses more on helping English language learners acquire the basic conversational skills. Babbel is a great language app that has a strong focus on vocabulary. Babbel also lets users learn to understand a language by completing and repeating phrases. The app has four different approaches - Sound Recognition, Picture Recognition, Spelling and Fill in the blanks. We will learn how to introduce yourself, order food, and make travel arrangements, so that each word and phrase you use can serve a logistical purpose.

FluentU:

FluentU takes real-world videos—like music videos, commercials, news, cartoons and inspiring talks—and turns them into language immersion experiences. FluentU has a huge collection of authentic language videos that native speakers in each language actually watch regularly. Students get excited when they see their favorite clips appear in

the classroom. Words come with example sentences and definitions. Students will be able to add them to their own vocab lists, and even see how the words are used in other videos. These videos are all accompanied by interactive features and active learning tools for students, like flashcards and fun “fill in the blank” exercises.

Numerous etools can be highly beneficial for enhancing vocabulary.

Wordnik:

Wordnik is a visual dictionary that provides the target lexis“ connotations and different meanings. It can enrich learners“ vocabulary via providing multiple definitions, supplemented with examples.

Eyeplorer.com:

It is a visual brainstorming tool that inspires learners with a treasure of ideas.

Wall wisher :

This is another electronic wall to post ideas, sound files, images, etc.

Tricider:

Tricider is a voting site that opens the discussion of a topic with a question, to be answered coupled with points to justify:

CONCLUSION

Since Technology is in a continuous rapid development and with every sun rise there is a new App, and as youth are using them, we have to keep ourselves updated with these App, that may at least help us succeed to catch students attention towards learning, and if we use Apps that is their preference, obviously we will reach our goals and that will reinforce the regular academic process and help us and them. Students really enjoy incorporating technology in their language learning routines, often preferring it to conventional reading, writing and classroom activities. Implementing blended learning in literature classes can be quite rewarding and enjoyable. It widens the horizon for learners to exceed the boundaries of time, place andtext to create a virtual world of their own.

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