



Acquisition of English Language with the Aid of ICT

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Abstract

The patterns of social interdependence and every part of the users' personal lives are being reshaped and rebuilt by technology. The paradigm shift in education now is from instructivism to constructivism. Constructivism calls for the more efficient use of ICT, and technology itself is a constructivist practice. Both the teacher's and the student's methods of instruction have changed as a result. The important term of this paper that is Language acquisition stands for learning a language without making any deliberate or conscious effort. It gives the chance of liberal expression of learners' views and solving the problems through it. The current pedagogical experience clearly highlights the didactic potential of contemporary technology in enhancing the intensity of instruction in second languages. Incorporating technology into the curriculum not only fosters students' creative growth but also opens doors for instructors to advance their careers. With its many tools, technology can improve language acquisition as well. The present paper attempts to present the views on how the Information Communication Technology (ICT) is useful in the effective language acquisition using its wide range of digital tools and gadgets in a smart way.

Keywords: Language Acquisition, ICT, language skills, language learning, virtual learning

1. Introduction

Since English is regarded as the universal language, acquiring and understanding it is now recognised on a global scale. The key to unlocking the continually expanding vault of information in a variety of global domains, including science, technology, business, literature, medicine, finance, and politics, is English. In this era of innovation, the education is facilitated by the recent advancements, which have developed the increasing tendency towards the use of educational technology. In place of traditional classrooms, the digital classrooms and the latest technological aspects reshaped the teaching methodology of present context. As English is called as the 'Window on Science Technology', acquired new trends in teaching and acquisition of it with technological usage. According to Kent "ICT in education point of view refers to Information and Communication Technology (ICT) such as computers, communicators facilities and features that

variously support teaching, learning and a range of activities in education (QCA Schemes of Work for ICT in Kent Country Council, 2004)." Furthermore, a number of computer-based applications, the internet, and computer-assisted language learning (CALL) are all included in the broad category of information and communication technology (Fitzpatrick and Davies, 2002). [1]

2. Language Acquisition through ICT

Language acquisition stands for learning a language without making any deliberate or conscious effort. It gives the chance of liberal expression of learners' views and solving the problems through it. A natural communication source is necessary for language acquisition. It is natural that things will change, and technological advancements have completely changed the teaching and learning landscape. These days, education is not just found in classrooms; a person may find pre-made answers to all of their

queries by searching for them on Google. In order to provide students with access to information, encourage engagement and communication, and improve their digital literacy, this field is seeing a growing usage of open-access resources, online courses, virtual classrooms, and social networks based on information and communication technology (ICT). ICT should be integrated with current teaching methods in order to enhance the English language learning process overall. It has been found that ICT is a very effective instrument for changing education and reform. Positive improvements occur in the learner as well as the teacher's professional development when technology is integrated into the classroom. Instructors that use technology to teach inspire students to learn, improve their capacity for learning, and raise student performance. [2]

3. Technology in the Classroom

With the use of technology, theoretical explanations in the classroom can be easily understood. For example, power point presentations and audiovisual aids can be utilised effectively to teach complicated literature. By looking at the slides, pupils will be able to comprehend difficult subjects in various ways. Additionally, using technology to teach students can help them become better comprehends. The internet is undoubtedly helpful to pupils. Virtual classrooms are used by numerous educational institutions to give their courses. Traditional classrooms, where students could choose to study whenever it was convenient for them and skip regular classes, are being replaced by these virtual classrooms. Technology has provided immense benefits to the students today. During this pandemic time, with the help of ICT tools, online teaching helped everyone to get through with their own ways of teaching or learning with the help of desktop or laptop or mobile and followed with software or apps like Google meet, zoom, Microsoft teams etc. Online resources like Google Classroom, EDMODO, and Zoho Writer can be used to track students' progress and accomplishments with regard to class assignments. With the use of these online collaboration tools, educators can share lesson plans, written assignments, videos, and links. They can also administer online assessments and encourage students to turn in assignments electronically. When

every student has a tablet PC and receives instructions, tests, assignments, and feedback from the teacher electronically, classroom activities can be extremely effective. Students will learn a variety of public speaking skills by watching recordings of chosen speeches, debates, group discussions, and other events. These movies should be shown to them before a class discussion on observations and analysis. Students' performances in the classroom can also be captured on film and played back to them at a later time. Similar to this, giving readers the opportunity to record and playback their own voices alongside the text would help them become more proficient speakers in terms of accent, diction, and pronunciation. Because tablets have long battery lives and Wi-Fi connectivity, m-learning is feasible anywhere and anytime. However, while technology can facilitate learning, "the way a technology is used cannot be determined until it is actually used by real people in real settings" (Sharples, 2007).

3.1. Advantages of Working with Different ICT Tools

Pete Sharma and Barney Barret (2007) list a number of justifications for integrating technology into language instruction. Apart from its potential to inspire, technology provides the ability to operate independently or engage and cooperate with others. [3]

4. MALL-Learning and Applications

The goal of mobile learning, sometimes referred to as M Learning or Mobile Assisted Language Learning (MALL), is to use a mobile device to spread knowledge and facilitate learning. Copaert (2004) highlights the significance of creating a language learning environment prior to determining the function of mobile devices. He also stresses the value of putting the learner first rather than the technology. [4]

4.1. Computer

Computer is as teacher, communication facilitator, a data source, a tool, a tester etc., with multimedia CD ROMS, head phone, microphone headset and Internet or software. E-learning, television, social interface are some of the ICT tools deal in learning not only learning language aspects and covers all aspects according to the needs of learners.

4.2. PDAs

Personal digital Assistants (PDAs) are more often associated with m-learning than cell phones. Their use has been integrated into various disciplines within high schools, universities, and medical schools (Carlson, 2002).

4.3. iPods

iPods which are not provides only audio functionality but also video. [5]

4.4. Home Connection

Facilitates the learners to the language accessing through internet with different websites for language learning. The digital dictionaries help in learning vocabulary and pronunciation. Different softwares on English language learning make the learners to learn it without the help of teacher. The educated parents help their children in accessing the information related to not only language learning and other aspects.

4.5. Apps, Websites and Portals

Through mobile the apps like American English app helping the learners or students to listen to many audio clips from this app and they can read paragraphs as a reading comprehension. What's App can be used for not only passing messages, it can be used to send digital books, softcopies, PDF files for the usage of language learning. There are many language websites like BBC Learning English, Live Mocha, Babbel, Duolingo, FluentU, Learn English online etc in learning the English language virtually. The government online portals like SWAYAM, NPTEL provides E-learning through online Web and video.

4.6. Language Aspects

Teachers should provide English language learners with a language-rich atmosphere where they are constantly involved in language activities, according to the Liaw (1997). For learning through communication to take place, children must be able to communicate with one another. This kind of setting is made possible by computers. The computer can be a tool for improving spoken communication.

4.7. Vocabulary Development

Using software to teach vocabulary is one method that English language learners can benefit from computers. Kang and Dennis (1995) write, "Any

attempt to treat vocabulary learning as learning of isolated facts certainly will not promoted real vocabulary knowledge." For better understanding, students must acquire terminology in context and with visual aids. An environment this complex and contextual can be provided by computers.

4.8. Listening & Speaking

One can listen to the pronunciation, accent and speech of different speakers and language usage terms through audio and videos on you tube like motivation lectures, language learning and Ted talk videos. Through social media like what's app and face book also helpful in enhancing the skills.

4.9. Reading

Technology can be applied in a variety of ways to enhance reading proficiency. The majority of easy-to-read texts have relatively basic substance. Using a computer to teach reading also has the advantage of providing instant performance feedback. They can also offer further practice if needed.

4.10. Writing

Lewis (1997) suggests that in order to prevent pupils from becoming frustrated, learning should be led. It might be challenging for pupils to write paragraphs in a language that is still relatively foreign to them. However, using visuals on a computer can greatly enhance this experience.

Conclusion

The advancement of technology and the methods of instruction that use it accelerate the process of teaching and learning. In order to adapt to the modern environment, educators need keep up with technological advancements. They will have the ability to plan and carry out student experiences that are supported by technology. Teachers at the postsecondary level require training and workshops to keep them informed about the latest technological tools for the teaching and learning process. They also need to be aware of the innovative teaching techniques made accessible by technological advancements. Institutions ought to support educators who implement cutting-edge methods in the classroom, such as utilising mobile devices and ICT tools, and who also sign up for online courses to further their professional growth. Above all, teachers need to be able to integrate technology into their



lessons in a way that aligns with their pedagogical goals, technique, and teaching philosophy. [6,7]

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