



THE USE OF MODERN TECHNOLOGIES AND THE IMPORTANCE OF USING THEM IN TEACHING THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE IN THE HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM

Sidiqov G'iyosjon Yusufovich, Supiyev Shavkat Axmatovich

Senior lecturers of the Department of Interfaculty Foreign Languages, Navoi State University

Abstract: The integration of modern technologies into the teaching of English in higher education plays a crucial role in enhancing the learning experience. These technologies provide students with access to authentic materials, interactive content, and personalized learning experiences, which improve language proficiency. Tools such as language learning apps, online resources, and virtual platforms facilitate communication, collaboration, and cultural exchange, making learning more engaging and effective. Additionally, technological tools enable more efficient assessment, instant feedback, and tracking of student progress. By incorporating these technologies, educators can create dynamic, flexible, and accessible learning environments that cater to the diverse needs of students, ultimately fostering better language skills and preparing them for global communication.

Key words: communication, teaching English, language, higher education, system.

Introduction

In the modern era, the rapid development of technology has profoundly impacted various sectors, including education. In particular, the teaching of the English language in higher education has benefited significantly from the integration of modern technologies. These technologies offer innovative ways to enhance the learning process, making it more engaging, interactive, and accessible. Digital tools such as online learning platforms, language learning apps, multimedia resources, and virtual classrooms provide students with diverse opportunities to practice and improve their English language skills. As the global demand for English proficiency continues to grow, the use of technology in language education has become essential in helping students achieve fluency and communication competence. This introduction highlights the importance of modern technologies in transforming traditional language teaching methods, providing both instructors and learners with new tools to enrich the educational experience in the higher education system. Bordbar (2010) investigated the reasons and factors behind language teachers' use of computer technology in the classroom. The study further explored teacher attitudes towards computer and information technology and the various ways they applied practical computer-assisted language learning experience and knowledge to their own language instruction delivery. The results found that almost all the teachers held positive attitudes towards the use of computers in the class. The results also underscored the importance of teachers' overall perceptions of technology, technological experience, skill, and competence, and the cultural environment that surrounds the introduction of IT into schools and language institutes and shapes attitudes towards computer technology[1].

Analyses

Shyamlee (2012, p. 155) analyzed the use of multi-media technology in language teaching. The study found that such technology enhances student learning motivation and attention since it implicates students in the practical processes of language learning via communication with each other. Shyamlee recommended the use multi-media technology in classrooms, particularly as its positive impact on the learning process aligns

with the ongoing efficacy of the teacher role. The findings of the research support the proven futility of traditional English teaching methods, and confirm that learners are more enthusiastic and interactive when using modern technology to assimilate English. Statistical data reiterates that a high percentage of those learning English language skills do so via modern media such as smart boards, computers and screens, as compared to traditional teaching methods. Moreover, the study reveals that the interaction with teachers and overall responsiveness of students in the classroom is significantly improved when using modern techniques in English teaching. In fact, it is clear both that students are more likely to learn from electronic curricula and that English language teachers prefer to employ modern technology rather than traditional methods of instruction[2]

Modern technologies have become an integral part of the educational landscape, transforming the way languages, including English, are taught in higher education. The integration of these technologies into the teaching process has led to significant changes, improving both the efficiency and effectiveness of language instruction. Below are some key aspects of the role and importance of modern technologies in teaching English at the university level:

Access to Authentic Materials and Resources. Modern technologies provide students with access to a vast array of authentic materials such as online articles, videos, podcasts, and news sources in English. These resources expose students to real-world language use, enhancing their understanding of contemporary English, various accents, dialects, and colloquial expressions. Digital libraries, databases, and e-books also offer a wealth of reading materials that are easily accessible.

Enhancing Communication and Collaboration. With the advent of tools like video conferencing, discussion forums, and collaborative platforms (e.g., Google Classroom, Zoom), students can communicate and collaborate more effectively, both with peers and instructors. This fosters interactive learning and offers opportunities for peer-to-peer language practice, group discussions, and collaboration on projects in English.

Language Learning Apps and Platforms. A wide range of language learning applications, such as Duolingo, Babbel, and Memrise, offer students the ability to practice English outside the classroom. These apps incorporate gamification elements, helping to motivate students and provide them with personalized learning experiences. Additionally, learning management systems (LMS) like Moodle or Blackboard enable instructors to assign tasks, track progress, and provide instant feedback[3]

Interactive and Engaging Content. Modern educational technologies facilitate the creation of interactive content such as quizzes, multimedia presentations, virtual reality (VR), and augmented reality (AR) applications. These tools help make learning English more engaging and stimulating. For example, virtual simulations or VR experiences can immerse students in realistic environments where they can practice English in context.

Assessment and Feedback. Technological tools enable more efficient and accurate assessment methods. Automated quizzes, online exams, and peer assessments provide instant feedback to students. Additionally, the use of tools like Turnitin helps prevent plagiarism, ensuring academic integrity. Teachers can use analytics from these tools to identify areas where students struggle and offer targeted support.

Personalized Learning. Technology facilitates personalized learning paths. Adaptive learning platforms adjust the difficulty level of tasks based on student performance, helping learners progress at their own pace. This is particularly useful in a diverse classroom where students may have different levels of proficiency in English. Personalized learning helps cater to individual needs, enhancing overall learning outcomes.

Flexibility and Accessibility. Modern technologies make English language learning more flexible and accessible. With online courses, students can learn English anywhere and anytime, overcoming geographical and time limitations. This is especially valuable in today's globalized world, where students from diverse backgrounds and locations can access high-quality educational resources.

Cultural Exposure. Through technologies like video conferencing, students can interact with native English speakers or participate in virtual exchange programs. This enhances their understanding of cultural nuances, idiomatic expressions, and the socio-cultural context of the language. Online cultural exchange platforms help students not only improve their language skills but also broaden their global perspective.

Teacher Professional Development. The use of modern technologies also benefits English language instructors. Digital tools can be used for professional development, allowing educators to access webinars, online courses, and resources that help them stay updated with the latest teaching methodologies and

technologies. Teachers can also use these tools to create innovative lesson plans, track student performance, and implement new pedagogical approaches.

Conclusion

The use of modern technologies in teaching English in higher education significantly enriches the learning experience for students. By offering access to authentic materials, enhancing communication and collaboration, providing personalized learning experiences, and enabling innovative teaching methods, these technologies help students gain a deeper understanding of the English language. As a result, educators are better equipped to foster language proficiency in their students, preparing them for success in an increasingly interconnected and technology-driven world.

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