



## BENEFITS OF COMPUTER-BASED LEARNING IN LANGUAGE EDUCATION

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### Annotation

This article examines the advantages of computer-based learning (CBL) in the field of language education. It explores how CBL tools and methodologies enhance language acquisition by fostering learner engagement, providing personalized learning experiences, and offering access to authentic language resources. The article argues that integrating CBL into language classrooms can significantly improve learner outcomes and prepare students for an increasingly digital world.

### Key words

distance learning, motivation, games, innovative learning strategies, productivity and creativity, critical thinking skills, collaboration.

Many different types of learning programmes all throughout the world can use the computer-based learning technique. It can also be applied in conjunction with conventional teaching techniques to enhance the training and educational process as a whole. Computer-based learning may be able to assist businesses in providing employees with deeper and more efficient training. Students can receive individual instruction at a fair price.

Computer-based learning is mainly used in:

1. Knowledge-based training and assessment
2. Simulation-based learning and training
3. Creative and instructional games
4. Problem-solving training

The use of computers in education has many advantages. It makes education more accessible to people from disadvantaged backgrounds. Unlike in a conventional classroom, individuals can study at their own speed. With computer-based learning, all users have to do is set aside the time required to study the material, which is always accessible. Several factors make computer-based learning cost-effective, such as shortened travel times and the capacity to train new users or pupils using the same programme. Learning gives students independence, protection, and the capacity to monitor their development. The overall training time decrease is another important benefit.

But there are also serious drawbacks to computer-based learning. The process of creating computer-based learning can take a while. The technology and software needed for education can be pricey.

Moreover, computer-based learning cannot support or help many courses or fields. Language education can benefit greatly from computer-based learning, which is transforming the way that languages are taught and learned. The following are some benefits of using computers in the classroom:

#### Improves student engagement and interaction

In contrast to traditional textbooks, a lot of people think that using technology might boost student involvement and engagement. At this point, every student's life is intricately linked to technology. Consequently, people feel more competent and at ease when using familiar equipment. All students have equal access to opportunities for engagement when schools employ a device-to-student ratio of one to one. Students can engage in a variety of idea sharing and question-answering activities thanks to the availability of a wide range of interactive tools and software. Students' interest and motivation are piqued by interactive multimedia tools, gamified learning environments, and virtual reality simulations, which enhance the fun and engagement of language learning. Games, movies, and interactive exercises improve understanding while promoting participation from the user.

#### Offers innovative learning strategies

Numerous educational initiatives employ innovative approaches to teach pupils a broad range of subjects, such as science, English, and literature, in addition to arithmetic and problem-solving techniques. Many learning theories suggest that by encouraging students to explore and solve problems from multiple angles, games, puzzles, and word searches can effectively improve cognitive performance.

#### Boosts both creativity and productivity

Teachers now find it much simpler to oversee and keep track of all school-related activities thanks to technology. It helps students to write thoroughly researched papers and show their work in an excellent manner. Technology also has the capacity to foster more creativity. It motivates educators to come up with creative strategies to grab and hold students' attention during lectures. In a similar vein, it pushes students to explore a range of subjects in order to increase their knowledge.

#### Promotes collaboration

Not every student finds the same subjects to be fascinating. To increase their knowledge, teachers should encourage their pupils to write on subjects they are interested in. They might make sure kids can enjoy their favourite pastimes and pick up valuable knowledge at the same time by doing this. Even if students are not physically present in class, they can still collaborate with one another utilising Canva, Google Slides, Google Docs, and other technologies. Working together in this way fosters critical thinking and teamwork skills.

#### Keeps you up-to-date

Anywhere there is an emergency or urgent notification, schools can use this online platform to notify staff and students. They can use technology to notify everyone about important information, impending events, and breaking news. This is the most effective way to inform and connect with people.

#### Motivation

In general, integrating technology into the classroom—whether for instructional purposes or not—tends to enhance student engagement. However, some design flaws have an impact on how compelling the specific instrument is to motivate. Personalising information—for instance, by including the student's name or familiar contexts—is one way that a task or programme might encourage students' motivation. Other

examples include using animated things on the screen, offering practice exercises that combine interest with obstacles, and offering a non-linguistic setting (fantasy or the real world).

For instance, a research comparing students who utilised the language arts development programme "CornerStone" with children who did not found a statistically significant increase in language arts learning between two classes of middle school pupils who were immersed in English. This is due to CornerStone's integration of customised data with demanding and creative tasks inside a fantastical setting. Additionally, it has been demonstrated that including a range of multimedia elements into a single programme or course increases student engagement and attention. Students who are more motivated prefer to work on assignments on the computer for longer periods of time, which can be measured. Achievement is often attributed to having more time.

### Adapting learning to the student

Teaching materials can play a new role thanks to computers. Students can't really affect the linear flow of the material in the classroom without computers, but computers can adjust to each individual learner. When a lesson is tailored to the needs of the learner, it usually means that the learner sets the pace and has some control over what and how they learn, including the ability to pass over unneeded material or complete remedial work on challenging concepts. Students who have this kind of control feel more capable of learning. Exercises with flexible material, including branching stories, adventures, riddles, or logic problems, are typically preferred by students. With these, the computer's function is to offer an engaging context for language use instead of giving the learner the language they require directly.

### Authenticity

When it comes to language acquisition, "authenticity" refers to the chance to engage in one or more of the four skills—reading, writing, speaking, and listening—by utilising or creating texts intended for a target audience outside of the classroom. When teachers model authentic communication behaviours, pupils experience a sense of empowerment and reduce their fear of interacting with others. Students think that when they communicate using computers, they learn more quickly and effectively. Also, in a setting like this, pupils pick up more cultural knowledge. Students in networked computer systems consciously experience themselves as part of a real community. There is also a sense of equality when everyone is studying a foreign language. In these circumstances, students experience reduced stress and increased confidence when learning a language, partly due to the fact that little mistakes hold less significance. Since there is instant feedback during synchronous CMC (such as chats), this works best; nevertheless, email exchanges have been demonstrated to offer many of the same advantages in terms of student emotion and motivation.

### Critical thinking abilities

The use of computers in the classroom is generally associated with several benefits, including enhanced self-concept and basic skill mastery, increased student-centered learning and engagement, increased active processing leading to higher-order thinking skills and improved recall, and increased confidence in self-directing learning.

### Online education - distance learning

Computer-based remote education consists of synchronous, set-time computer lessons, typically conducted in a computer lab. This is especially prevalent in institutions that are already established and have access to the required equipment.

During the pandemic quarantine of 2019–2021, computer-based learning has shown to be quite successful. Using the Zoom programme on their home PCs, students participated in live classes. Through the websites of educational institutions, students posted assignments, completed tests, and received

computerised grade reports. Computer sites and equipment are essential for language acquisition in the remote learning environment. Long-distance learners still participate in international courses from home and receive remote education via computer-based learning. Students improve their reading, listening, speaking, writing, and vocabulary using computer-based learning, websites, and software. They also gain cultural competency by interacting with native speakers online.

Distance learning is the term for instructional strategies that put an emphasis on increasing access to education and training while releasing students from time and place constraints. It is one of the areas of education that is expanding the fastest since it provides both individuals and groups with flexible learning options. It is common knowledge that the importance of remote learning in education is expanding, especially in light of the development of Internet-based technologies like the World Wide Web. Information, computing, and communication technologies are used in numerous locations during this type of learning. Teachers and students are physically separated in the core idea of distance learning, but they are connected via technology. It is essential to social and economic advancement and is now a part of all educational systems, in developed and developing countries alike. The internationalisation of remote education offers several chances for nations to meet their large-scale educational goals. Advances in technology and the growing need for continuous skill development and training have led to a spike in interest in distance learning.

The integration of computer-based learning in language education holds immense potential for transforming the learning experience. By harnessing the power of technology, CBL enhances learner engagement, personalizes learning pathways, provides access to authentic language resources, and cultivates crucial digital literacy skills. As technology continues to evolve, the role of CBL in language education is only expected to grow, empowering learners to achieve fluency and proficiency in an interconnected world.

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