

Use of ICT in English Language Teaching and Learning in Indian Context

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Abstract

The present research paper tries to focus on the importance of multimedia technology to language teaching and learning in Indian context. It brings out the difficulties faced by using these technologies. It aims to make English teachers aware of the strategies to use it in an effective manner. With the progress of English language around the world, English is used as a second language but enjoys a high prestige in our country India. In the present condition the role and status of English in India is higher than other languages. The position of English language as a key subject of medium of instruction, and curriculum. As the numbers of English learners are increasing different teaching methods have been implemented to develop the teaching process. ICT is very effective and useful device of teaching English literature in the classes. It makes audio-visual impacts on the students so it is the more effective than traditional methods of teaching. ICT also makes the job of the teacher easy. It also saves the time and labour of the teacher. It is true that these ICT tools have proved successful in replacing the traditional teaching. The new era implements new challenges and duties on the modern teacher. In English language teaching and learning, we have a lot of alternatives to choose from the world of technology: TV, CD Rom, Radio, Computers, the Internet, Electronic Dictionary, Email, Blogs and Audio Cassettes, Power Point, Videos, DVD's or VCD's. The last two decades have witnessed a revolution of technology. It is rapid rising and development of information technology which has explored the new teaching model. As a result ICT plays a very important role in English teaching. Using multimedia to teach English has its unique advantages.

Keywords: ICT, Multimedia Technology, English Language teaching, Advantages, Disadvantages, Strategies, Audio-Visual Aid, English Literature, etc.

ICT stands for 'Information Communications Technology'. ICT is the term that includes all technologies for the manipulation and communication of information. ICT is digital technology that exists to help individuals, business and organization. It is not easy to define ICT because it is difficult to keep up the changes which are so fast. ICT provides information sources, enable communications,



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create interacting learning environment and promote change in methods of teaching. Quality and access to up-to-date and relevant materials can be improved while offsetting some costs of textbooks.

English language is the most important language. It plays very significant role in the process of globalization and knowledge explosion. English language is the means of communication throughout the world. So it is termed as Link language. In Indian context it is treated as English as a second language. Use of English language has become significant for learning and earning. So, it is essential to teach and develop English language skills among the students. Non-government organizations, the government organizations, and educational institutions are working at various levels and taking measures to ensure better English language teaching and developing English language skills among the students.

The quality education is basic need of the modern society. There are effective teaching & learning methodologies in practice. Technology is the proper and relevant effective way to increase the student's knowledge. Being an academician I cannot think education without ICT. Nowadays ICT plays significant role in the process of integrating technology into the educational activities.

To teach and develop English language skills among the students at various levels in our country. But most of them are traditional, ineffective, less interesting as well as less motivating. Therefore, it is necessary to use modern tools of Information and Communication Technology to develop basic skills, Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing of English language among the students. ICT has to offer both teachers and students for the enhancement of their vocabulary and improvement of English language skills. Teaching through ICT is need of an hour. ICT plays significant role in today's education system. It is an effective way to educate the students. ICT makes permanent impact on the minds of students. It increases thinking abilities of the students.

Now a day's ICT tools are being used widely. Some of these tools are 'Mobile Assisted Language Learning' (MALL), 'Computer Assisted Language Learning' (CALL), 'Computer Assisted Learning' (CAL), 'Technology Enhanced Language Learning' (TELL), 'Computer Assisted Language Assessment' (CALA), 'Computer Assisted Language Instruction' (CALI), Blogs, Wiki, E-mail Facility, Digital Libraries, Multimedia, Mobile Learning, Free and Open Source Software and Social Media, A Massive Open Online Course (MOOC), Virtual Classrooms, Documentaries, Digital Storytelling, Mobile Applications, I-Pads, Digital Notebooks, Tablets, Smart Phones, Digital Pronunciation Dictionaries, Recorded Audio- Video Materials, Online Spoken Tutorials, etc. These facilities have provided freedom of learning anytime, anywhere according to needs and convenience of the learners. So, we should take proper action to integrate ICT in the field of 'English Language Teaching' to make the learners well proficient in English language skills.



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ICT imparts various alternatives to make teaching interesting and more productive. David Graddol: (1997:16) states that, "technology lies at the heart of the globalization process; affecting education work and culture. The use of English language has increased after 1960. English is the language of social context, sociocultural, business, political, education, industries, media, library, communication across borders, and key subject in curriculum and language of imparting education". Various teaching ideas have been implemented for effectiveness of the teaching process. One of them involves multimedia in English Language Teaching. This ELT method helps students to get involved and learn according to their interests, this process of ELT has been widely accepted for teaching English in the modern world.

21st century is the age of globalization. English Language Teaching has been with us for many years and its importance continues to increase. As the use of English has increased in popularity so has the need for qualified teachers to instruct students in the language. Most of the teachers still teach in the traditional manner. None of these traditional manners are bad for the students. There are more opportunities to gain confidence and practice for students. So multimedia technology has uniquely inspired student's positive thinking and communication skills in social practice.

Information and communications technology (ICT) is influencing every aspect of human life. ICT is playing salient role in work places, business, education, and entertainment. ICTs recognize as catalysts for change. In the modern digital era, use of ICT in the classroom is important for giving students opportunities to learn and apply the required 21st century skills. ICT corrects teaching and learning and its importance for teachers in performing their role of creators. ICT helps teachers to present their teaching attractively and able to learn for the learners at any level of educational programmes. Now a days in India teaching training programmes making useful and attractive by the term of ICT. ICT is the internet and interactive multimedia which provides an important focus for future education and it is need to be integrated into formal teaching and learning especially in a teacher education institution.

The researcher has tried to present in his research paper how ICT plays crucial role in teaching literature in the classes. ICT is very useful and fruitful device to study or teach language and literature in the classes. Of course, it is not substitute to the teachers but it is very much useful for them for effective learning. ICT is really great source for the effective learning of any form of English literature. ICT makes learning interesting and entertaining.

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