INVESTIGATING ONLINE RESOURCES FOR EFFECTIVE ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING

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Abstract :   This paper deals with the availability of online- web resources for effective English language teaching. The online resource helps to inculcate the innovative and meaningful teaching methods for enhancing the students learning. After Covid-19 pandemic, student classrooms are engaged with "Digital Natives" Prensky et al 2001. Web resources provide cutting edge technologies for digital class rooms. Teachers must comprehend their unique demands and learning preferences in order to adopt and organize the most effective tools and tactics for helping students to learn English. As a result of technological innovation, teaching and learning are now more creative and meaningful in our classrooms and educational system. The aim of this article is to a link between English language teaching and technology that promotes a positive and innovative learning environment. It also examines and describes the technological tools that can be used to teach different language skills in a creative way, integrating them both within and outside of the classroom.

IndexTerms - **Modern Technology, Students learning, English Language Teaching, Digital Classrooms, Web Resources**

I. INTRODUCTION

HISTORICAL CONTEXT OF THE STUDY

The English language was originally intended to represent the King's or Queen's English, British English, Received Standard English, and other variations. The spoken form of this language, which is more common, contains a wide range of written forms as well. There are numerous regional dialects of English that are spoken inside Great Britain itself, including Cockney English, Irish English, and Scottish English, which are all spoken by both highland and lowland people. The majority of academic settings in London employ Standard English, sometimes known as Queen's English. American English, which has become more common in India and differs from British English in three key areas—ideas or decision-making, accent, and spelling—is spoken by many people in the country. It is uncommon to hear other varieties of English spoken in India, such as African or Africanized English. Actually, there has been a slow transition from a time of "linguistic imperialism" to a time of "linguistic globalisation."

Technology has drastically altered everyone's life, as evidenced by innovative modifications in educational techniques implemented by schools. During the COVID-19 pandemic, educational institutions all around the world were affected. Many educational commissions and policies emphasise the importance of technology. The most recent use of technology in the classroom is emphasised in National Education Policy 2020 as a way to make learning more hands-on, comprehensive, learner-centered, engaging, and adaptable. This policy is founded on numerous important ideas. "Extensive use of technology in teaching and learning..." is one of the essential concepts.

Many studies have been conducted on the subject of using technology to learn English. According to Himmelsbach (2019), we can access and gather information whenever the Internet is connected. Additionally, we can discover nearly anything online, and it is always being updated. Students can find study materials, interactive learning software, and free resources from renowned universities throughout the world thanks to this access. When using technology in the classroom, students can immerse themselves in a virtual environment with a variety of situations by using their photograph as their profile picture. While not in class, Second Life gives students the chance to collaborate and engage with other students. Students are being engaged in innovative ways when learning English, Additionally, the students can interact with one another and become fully immersed in the language they are studying (Zazulak, 2016). Engaging pupils in innovative ways is one advantage of employing technology in English language instruction.

Effective planning and integration are crucial for achieving productive and beneficial outcomes when utilizing technology for educational purposes. It is undeniable that modern societies have embraced technological advancements, leading to significant transformations in societal, moral, educational, and aesthetic realms. Within various educational and research domains, a diverse range of technological tools is being employed. Traditional approaches to teaching and learning have gradually evolved into technology-supported modes, where teachers adopt the role of facilitators and guides, while learners actively engage in

collaborative knowledge acquisition through hands-on participation. This shift emphasizes the importance of creating an environment that fosters interactive learning experiences and encourages cooperative knowledge building.

In contemporary times, educators have transitioned from being mere trainers or conveyors of information to assuming the role of community managers. Their focus is on designing learning environments that cultivate creativity and productivity among learners. Similar statement is made by Bikowski (2015): "Students can now become more self-directed and active in their own learning processes, and teachers can move from being one-way transmitters of information into educational facilitators and guides."

The Internet will encourage readers to learn, claims Arif. To broaden their intellectual awareness and refine their thinking skills, we can employ images, movies, and music in combination with the courses. Students can use apps linked to English on their phones, which provides an additional benefit. The use of technology by English language learners will be advantageous, claims Speck (2019). Modern society makes extensive use of technology, particularly in the field of education.

According to Hopkins (2017), individuals merely knew something intimately related to them in the past. But all of their perspectives have been altered by technology. Thanks to cellphones, children may now instantly interact with their friends, relatives, and teachers.

Motteram (2014) also asserted that users, including both instructors and students, have the ability to utilize the Internet to search for a diverse range of information and actively participate in discussions with their peers regarding their newly acquired knowledge about the external world. We express gratitude for the convenience provided by technology, especially the Internet, which facilitates effortless access to learning resources.

Technology facilitates learning, but we should think of it as a tool that supports learning, claims Ahmadi (2018). The use of mobile devices or applications is one of many techniques for teaching vocabulary. The ability to learn outside of the classroom is also accepted by these factors. On the other hand, educational activities will not impose any restrictions on the locations where students can interact with their professors and fellow students (Hashemifardnia, 2018). The benefits of studying, improving, practising, and developing speaking skills will be used via computer technology and the Internet.

According to Alsied and Pathan (2013), EFL students can use technology like computers, tablets, and smart phones to access the Internet and communicate with people from other countries while also learning the language.

Technology in ELT Classrooms

The integration of modern technology in English teaching encompasses the creative utilization of various techniques, tools, materials, devices, systems, and strategies that are specifically designed for instructing the English language and achieving desired objectives. Technology offers numerous opportunities to enhance the content and delivery of traditional English language instruction, making it particularly relevant in the field of English teaching. It has now gained widespread recognition as an important educational and supportive tool across different teaching and learning contexts. This is often achieved by enabling students and/or teachers to review challenging material repeatedly until they have fully understood and retained it.

The concept of embracing modern technology goes beyond the mere use of contemporary gadgets and appliances. It also encompasses the introduction of innovative teaching techniques and systems that foster faster and more comprehensive learning progress. According to prevailing educational concepts, students are better equipped to acquire and refine their language knowledge and skills when they harness the learning potential offered by technology. The integration of contemporary methods and their association with other beneficial components that aid students in accomplishing their goals is further strengthened through the use of technology in English teaching.

The fundamental goal of language teaching is to help students improve their language abilities so they can communicate effectively. English is a universal language that is well-known and frequently used to communicate with people all around the world. Teachers now have access to a wide range of English language tools and materials thanks to technology. Effectiveness of technological instruments depends on proper application.

Stevenson (2020) asserts, "It is important to remember these are only tools, and how you use them is what makes or breaks the class." Therefore, planning and organising English materials in a meaningful and productive manner is a primary responsibility of the instructor. Their function in the teaching-learning process changes from that of information transmitters to that of facilitators and guides. To construct technology-enabled tools and media-rich teaching environments, language teachers must possess a variety of skills and competences.

Teachers can use resources like Zoom (https://zoom.us), Flipgrid (https://flipgrid.com), BlueJeans (www. https://bluejeans.com), Webex (https://www.webex.com/), Melon (https://streamlabs.com/talk-studio), and Google Meet (https://meet.google.com/?pli=1) for taking online classes. These platforms offer a variety of activities including discussion forums, reflections, group activities, assignments, grading, and text, video, and audio modes. These are flexible, anytime lessons. In addition to this, educators can make use of a variety of online tools to improve and enrich students' English language proficiency.

2.1 Resources For Teaching Listening

Listening is a receptive talent, which is the process of receiving sounds, and is included in the list of linguistic abilities. In addition to passively taking in sounds, listening also involves processing them and giving them meaning. The capacity to comprehend a given language is a developing one. Constantly included is the cognitive skill of understanding. It is regarded as a fundamental and underlying skill. It could be challenging to converse effectively if you have hearing issues. The use of stories, music, entertaining movies, live theatre, and videos in learning listening activities can help teachers improve their students' listening abilities. Many websites, like BBC Learning English, ESL-Lab, TED Talks, English Club, Randall's ESL Cyber Listening Lab, FluentU, and YouTube, offer a fantastic selection of real materials and tools that can be used to educate and strengthen listening skills in English.

BBC Learning English (https://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/): This website offers a wide range of listening activities, including news-based exercises, podcasts, and pronunciation practice. The materials are suitable for learners of different levels.

ESL-Lab (http://www.esl-lab.com/): This site provides a collection of listening exercises categorized by difficulty level. You can listen to dialogues and answer comprehension questions to test your understanding.

TED Talks (https://www.ted.com/): TED Talks features inspiring and educational talks on various topics. Listening to these talks can improve your listening skills while exposing you to different ideas and perspectives.

EnglishClub (https://www.englishclub.com/listening/): EnglishClub offers listening resources, including quizzes, dictation exercises, and short listening passages with comprehension questions. The site also provides helpful tips and strategies for improving your listening skills.

Randall's ESL Cyber Listening Lab (https://www.esl-lab.com/): This website offers a wide range of listening activities for English learners, including conversations, interviews, and academic lectures. Each exercise is accompanied by comprehension questions and vocabulary practice.

FluentU (https://www.fluentu.com/): FluentU provides an immersive learning experience through authentic English videos, such as movie trailers, news clips, and music videos. It offers interactive captions, quizzes, and vocabulary exercises to improve your listening and comprehension skills.

YouTube (www.youtube.com) is a fantastic resource for education as well as for fun. You can use films, music, and other resources to practice listening in real English.

2.2 Resources for Teaching Speaking

Variables of the study contains dependent and independent variable. The study used pre-specified method for the selection ofvariables. The study used the Stock returns are as dependent variable. From the share price of the firm the Stock returns are calculated. Rate of a stock salable at stock market is known as stock price. Learning English entails both speaking and understanding it. The foundation of good communication is speaking ability. According to Baker & Westrup (2003), "students who can speak English well may have a greater chance of continuing their education, of finding employment, and of advancing in their careers." An effective English speaker employs a good vocabulary, maintains confidence and motivation, creates the right sounds, stresses, tone patterns, and intonation, and adapts speed to the context and the listener, and changes speed accordingly.

Speaking exercises should give participants practise for actual communication by having them talk about their lives, the news, their thoughts, and various topics (Baker & Westrup, 2003). Speaking and listening abilities serve as a basis for learning a second language. But the educational system severely undervalues these abilities.

Students lack the necessary exposure and opportunity to practise speaking and using proper English. Thankfully, technology offers instructors and students fresh possibilities to acquire vocabulary, pronunciation, and oral communication in a motivating atmosphere. EdTechReview, eLearning Industry, EdSurge, TeachThought, Common Sense Education, Edudemic, Education World, TES Teach with Blendspace, FluentU,

EdTechReview: This website provides news, reviews, and resources related to educational technology, including tools and strategies for teaching and speaking. One can explore their website at: https://edtechreview.in/

eLearning Industry: eLearning Industry offers a section dedicated to educational technology and tools that can enhance teaching and speaking skills. One can explore their resources at: https://elearningindustry.com/

EdSurge: EdSurge covers the latest trends and developments in education technology, including resources for teaching and speaking. One can explore their website at: https://www.edsurge.com/

TeachThought: TeachThought is a popular education blog that covers various aspects of teaching and learning, including the integration of technology in the classroom. They have a dedicated section on educational technology that can be helpful for teaching and speaking. One can explore their website at: https://www.teachthought.com/

Common Sense Education: Common Sense Education provides reviews, ratings, and resources for educational technology tools that can support teaching and speaking activities. One can explore their website: https://www.commonsense.org/education/

Edudemic: Although Edudemic is no longer updated, it still contains a wealth of articles and resources related to educational technology and innovative teaching methods. One can explore their archives at: https://www.edudemic.com/

EdTech Magazine: This website provides articles, resources, and insights on educational technology and its impact on teaching and learning. It covers a wide range of topics, including technology tools for speaking and communication in the classroom.

EdSurge: EdSurge is a comprehensive resource for educators interested in technology integration. It offers articles, product reviews, and guides related to educational technology, including speaking and language learning tools.

eLearning Industry: Although primarily focused on e-learning, this website features numerous articles and resources related to educational technology. You can find information on various tools and platforms that enhance speaking skills in educational settings.

Education World: Education World is a popular online resource for teachers and administrators. It covers different aspects of education, including technology integration. The website provides articles, lesson plans, and resources related to using technology for teaching speaking and communication skills.

TeachingEnglish - British Council: This website, specifically designed for English language teachers, offers a wide range of resources and materials for teaching speaking skills. It includes lesson plans, teaching tips, and technology-based activities to enhance oral communication in the classroom.

TES Teach with Blendspace: TES Teach is an online platform that allows teachers to create interactive lessons using a variety of media, including videos, audio, and images. It can be a useful tool for incorporating technology into speaking activities.

FluentU: FluentU is a language learning platform that uses authentic videos and interactive exercises to improve language skills. It provides a wide range of videos, including interviews, TED Talks, and presentations, which can be used to enhance speaking abilities

2.3 Resources for Teaching Reading

The study used the Stock returns are as dependent variable. From the share price of the firm the Stock returns are calculated. Rate of a stock salable at stock market is known as stock price. Teaching reading with technology can be an effective way to engage students and enhance their literacy skills. Here are some specific ways technology can be used in reading instruction:

Interactive E-Books: Interactive e-books provide students with engaging reading experiences. These e-books may include features like read-aloud options, interactive illustrations, embedded videos, and interactive quizzes. Students can interact with the text, explore multimedia elements, and receive immediate feedback, which promotes comprehension and engagement.

Reading Apps and Websites: There are numerous apps and websites specifically designed to support reading instruction. These platforms often offer a range of leveled reading materials, comprehension activities, vocabulary builders, and progress tracking features. Teachers can recommend or assign specific readings and activities based on each student's individual needs.

Digital Reading Platforms: Digital reading platforms provide access to extensive collections of books and texts in various genres and formats. These platforms often allow teachers to track student progress, monitor reading habits, and provide personalized recommendations. Students can read independently, set reading goals, and receive feedback on their reading achievements.

Online Reading Comprehension Tools: Online tools and platforms can be used to assess and improve reading comprehension skills. These tools typically offer reading passages or articles with accompanying questions and instant feedback. Teachers can use the data generated by these tools to monitor student progress and identify areas for intervention.

Collaborative Annotation Tools: Collaborative annotation tools enable students to actively engage with texts by highlighting, commenting, and discussing specific parts of the reading. Tools like Hypothesis or Google Docs allow students to share their thoughts, respond to prompts, and collaborate with peers in real-time, fostering critical thinking and deeper understanding.

Digital Vocabulary Resources: Online dictionaries, thesauri, and vocabulary-building tools can support students in expanding their word knowledge and understanding word usage. These resources often provide definitions, synonyms, antonyms, and examples of word usage. Some tools, like Quizlet, offer interactive flashcards and games to reinforce vocabulary acquisition.

Online Reading Communities: Students can connect with people who share their reading interests by joining online reading communities. Students can use platforms like Goodreads or class-specific forums to discuss books, recommend titles to their peers, write book reviews, and participate in virtual book clubs. These groups promote reading and encourage students to try different genres and authors.

When using technology for teaching reading, it's essential to provide guidance and support to students. Teachers should model appropriate digital reading strategies, provide clear instructions, and ensure students understand how to navigate and utilize the technology effectively. Additionally, it's important to balance the use of technology with offline reading experiences and provide opportunities for students to engage in discussions and activities that promote comprehension and critical thinking beyond the digital realm.

2.4 Resources for Teaching Writing

Writing is a tool for structuring and clarifying thoughts. Writing proficiency has been given the highest priority in our educational system because it is a requirement for all exams and promotions. Writing is a useful ability that refers to the creation of meaningful symbols in a certain language. It enables students to put the knowledge they have learned in class from textbooks to use and to consolidate it. It facilitates the transition from passive language structure knowledge to active language use on paper or a digital medium. Vocabulary, creativity, precision, and coherence are its main concerns. The most challenging aspect of writing in English is using the right grammar or being accurate. Students can access a variety of tools thanks to technology to help them write in English effectively and accurately. Available resources are like Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL), National Writing Project (NWP), ReadWriteThink, Common Core State Standards Initiative (CCSSI), Scholastic Writing with Writers, NoRedInk, Khan Academy and TED-Ed.

Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL): The OWL (ttps://owl.purdue.edu/owl/purdue_owl.html) from Purdue University is a comprehensive resource that covers various aspects of writing, including grammar, punctuation, style guides, and citation formats. It provides detailed explanations and examples, making it an excellent tool for students.

National Writing Project (NWP): NWP (https://www.nwp.org/) offers a range of resources for teaching writing, including lesson plans, teaching strategies, and professional development opportunities for educators. They also have a digital collection of student writing samples that can serve as examples for students.

ReadWriteThink: This website (http://www.readwritethink.org/) provides educators with a wide array of lesson plans, interactive tools, and student materials to support writing instruction. The resources are organized by grade level and cover different genres and writing skills.

Common Core State Standards Initiative (CCSSI): The CCSSI website (http://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy/W/) offers a detailed overview of the Common Core writing standards, which many educational institutions follow. It includes grade-specific writing standards, sample writing tasks, and assessment guidelines.

Scholastic Writing with Writers: Scholastic (https://www.scholastic.com/teachers/student-activities/writing-with-writers/) offers an interactive online platform where students can learn from and interact with professional writers. The platform provides writing instruction, author interviews, and guided writing activities across various genres.

NoRedInk: NoRedInk website (https://www.noredink.com/) focuses on grammar and writing skills. It offers personalized grammar lessons, practice exercises, and quizzes. The platform adapts to students' individual needs and provides feedback to help them improve their writing.

Khan Academy: Khan Academy's (https://www.khanacademy.org/ela/grammar) writing section covers different writing genres and provides video lessons, interactive exercises, and quizzes. It is suitable for students of various grade levels and can be a useful resource for both teachers and learners.

TED-Ed: TED-Ed (https://ed.ted.com/lessons?category=language-literature) offers a series of engaging video lessons on various writing topics. These lessons explore different aspects of writing, such as storytelling, creating strong characters, and structuring essays. They can be a source of inspiration for both students and teachers.

Integrating technology into English teaching can greatly enhance the learning experience for students. The steps for integrating technology into your English teaching are like Identify learning objectives, Select appropriate technologies, Plan and design lessons, Incorporate interactive multimedia, Leverage language learning apps and software, Use online resources and authentic materials, Provide feedback and assessment, Reflect and adapt.

Conclusion

The use of technology improves English classes by bringing excitement, energy, and engagement to students and establishing a collaborative and creative environment. When used effectively, it adds variety to classroom instruction and encourages participation and interaction from students. Additionally, it promotes learners' adaptability, independence, and self-direction, which helps them strengthen their English language abilities and builds their self-assurance in practical contexts. Teachers should be aware of the difficulties of utilising electronic resources, though, and work to strike a balance while encouraging student cooperation. Along with the usage of new tools, instructors should teach students about privacy, security, and academic integrity. Students will be better prepared to become lifelong learners in the digital era if they accomplish this.
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